

my bad

POLITICALLY INCORRECT

SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 2019

KEY SCRIPTURE | Matthew 22:15–21, Mark 6:17–20, John 18:36–37

DISCUSSION GUIDE

It's important to acknowledge that the Church hasn't always gotten things right. It's obvious to the culture around us that politics is one of those things, but some of us inside the church are oblivious.

Pastor Neal shared four political pitfalls found in the Church—partisanship (blindly endorsing all the views of a single party), single-issue voting (make all of your voting decisions based on one issue), division (allowing politics to divide what is supposed to be a united Church), and being apolitical (paying no attention to politics at all). These, he said, are the areas where the Church has gotten it wrong.

He also presented a solution for how individuals in the Church can move forward and avoid those pitfalls:

1. Read your Bible and pray more than you listen to the news.
2. Submit your words to the Holy Spirit.
3. Look for common ground with those you disagree with.
4. Think love first, rather than focusing on being "right."
5. Recognize that representing Christ is what matters the most.

God's kingdom is above this kingdom, and that should change how we navigate politics.

QUESTIONS

1. Are you interested in politics? Why or why not? What form does your interest take?
2. Think back to Sunday's message. What do you remember? Review your notes if you have them. Talk with your group about anything you found memorable or confusing.
3. What does the term "evangelical" mean to you? What do you think it means to our culture?
4. Pastor Neal shared four political pitfalls found in the Church. Do you agree with them? Why or why not? Would you add anything?
5. Have politics ever gotten in the way of an important relationship in your life? What happened? Would you do anything differently now?
6. Of the five ways to move forward, which one do you think you will struggle with the most? Why?
7. What's your biggest takeaway from Sunday's message and today's discussion?

