

VOTE



For Group Discussion

Answer these questions prior to your Small Group meeting this week.

Introduction

This week, we take a break in the Hindrance series to focus on our roles in democracy and the Kingdom of God. As we consider how to engage in this election season, we also must understand the bigger story we are a part of. We must do our homework as well as our part in the system God has given us, but we must maintain our influence with believers and outsiders above all else.

Discussion Questions

1. Danny discussed a few different levels of political engagement (fully engaged, can't wait for it to be over, or completely disengaged). Where would you say you are with this election? Why?

God has a plan for putting leaders in place. Read Romans 13:1. How does it make you feel to know that God is using our political system to put one of these candidates in place? Do you intend to participate in God's plan? Why or why not?

2. Read Philippians 3:20 and John 18:36. Jesus acknowledged the priority of His heavenly citizenship, so to vote like Jesus we must do the same. How do we use this lens in the way we approach our democracy?

Read Matthew 6:10. If we are to vote in a way that prioritizes kingdom values, we must do our homework. What does this look like for you?

3. The election of our nation's president is a big story, but a larger story is how God allows us to influence others toward a relationship with Him. Read Acts 17:26-27 & 2 Corinthians 5:19-20. During a political season like this one, what kinds of opportunities exist that would cause us to lose our influence with others?

In light of this political season, who have you felt God calling you to influence? How does viewing yourself as an ambassador for God's kingdom cause you to reevaluate your thoughts and actions during this electoral season toward that person and others?

Small Group Questions Continued

4. This political season may have caused some to worry about our future. Read 1 Timothy 2:1-2. What does it look like for a Christ-follower to trust and pray for our leadership during this election season and beyond?

What steps must you take to build confidence in God's authority over our nation and move beyond our current political season to maintain influence in the lives of others?

OUTREACH: GROUPS IN ACTION

OUR CHURCH

Ask your small group leader about serving opportunities at Emmanuel. We need help with the host team, in the Children's Ministry, on the production team and on student ministries teams.

OUR COMMUNITY

As a group, think about skills, talents and passions you are able to use together, such as helping a single mom with yard work, visiting a nursing home to spend time with the residents, or repairing a vehicle for someone who can't afford to pay. Start discussing and praying about ways you can help meet the needs of those around you.

OUR WORLD

Start praying and planning for your opportunity to be a part of an Emmanuel team who travels to support one of our mission partners. For a list of our Global Mission Partnerships and the dates for upcoming trips, go to eclife.org/next-steps/serve/global/.

Action Step

Fill in the blanks below for this upcoming week.

My action steps are _____.

I'm accountable for _____, and their action steps are _____.

My memory verse is _____.

This coming week, I'm praying for: