

# SMALL GROUP GROWTH GUIDE

November 6, 2022

**BIG IDEA:** Christ is sovereign over heaven and earth, governments, His church, family and you. That belief is no longer held and we have become the resistance in a hostile world.

## Note: Options for discussion.

1. Review the 21 Principles of Government page pick one or two and talk about how they can or should be applied today.
2. Do the same with the page titled "Spiritual Voters Guide". These are issue based. Use the Scripture as a point of reference to how we should think and act biblically.
3. Or, Discuss the questions below.

## BELONG

1. What is your perception of our nation currently? What concerns you the most about us as a nation?

## GROW

1. Read Psalm 50. Discuss the nature of God, what God he is doing and to whom.
  - v. 1-2 What is the description of God?
  - v. 3-6 What are God's actions?
  - v. 7-15. Who is God speaking to? What does it mean in v. 8 offerings are continually before me? What's the point of sacrifices always before God? What is that the picture of for us today? (Romans 6:10, 1 Peter 3:18, 2 Cor 5:15-17) What does this mean for God's people, vs 14? (Romans 1:21,12:1-2, Hebrews 10:1-18)
  - v. 16-21 Who is God speaking to? What is the nature of the character of the people God is referring?
  - v. 22-23 What is God's judgment and blessing?
2. What are the parallels, if any, that you see from this text that are being lived out currently in our society?
3. Dale suggested in his sermon that "we the people" have separated from the reality of the laws of nature and nature's God. The reality that our founders believed and understood. Read the following quotes and discuss how they put Scripture into action.

*"Whether this [new government] will prove a blessing or a curse will depend upon the use our people make of the blessings which a gracious God hath bestowed on us. If they are wise, they will be great and happy. If they are of a contrary character, they will be miserable. Righteousness alone can exalt them as a nation [Proverbs 14:34]. Reader! Whoever thou art, remember this, and in they sphere practice virtue thyself and encourage it in others."* **Patrick Henry**

*"Can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are the gift of God? That they are not to be violated but with His wrath? Indeed, I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just; that His justice cannot sleep forever."* **Thomas Jefferson**

4. He also suggested that because of the majority has separated from God's reality, Christians are now the "Resistance" in a hostile world. First, do you agree or disagree? Explain.

Second, what do you think changes for faithful Christians? What were some changes you see in Scripture?

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**BIG IDEA:** Christ is sovereign over all

## REACH

Dale gave us some actions steps to take.

-Pray and Repent–1 Timothy 2:2

-Pray and do good–Matthew 5:16

-Pray and do not repay evil for evil–Romans 12:17

-Pray and occupy till he comes–Luke 19:13

Christians are a people who should never be without hope. What attitude needs to change as you are berated in all the political rhetoric?

Note: When Paul wrote Romans, Nero was yet to lose his mind.

1. Civil Government is a blessing and not necessarily evil.
  - 2 Samuel 23:3-4
  - Must be just to be the blessing of God
  - The people are to be grateful.
2. God established a Righteous Throne with Majesty.
  - Prov 16:12; Daniel 4:30; 1 Chronicles 25:29
  - God causes to look upon the ruler in honor because of righteousness.
3. The Law of God is the Soul of a Good Ruler
  - Exodus 18:21
  - Qualifications for good ruler; Fear God, Truthful, cannot covet.
4. God Requires true humility
  - Deut 17:20
5. The People should honor.
  - 1 Peter 2:17
  - When Peter and Paul wrote roughly 50ad, Nero had a sound mind for 5 good years. Therefore, Paul was writing under a stable government.
  - Revelation 21:24 the Christian church.
    - This honor is real. Satan tempted Jesus with it. I'll give it to you; you don't have to go to the cross.
    - Humanity does do some good things. Babylon tower before God changed their language. That attitude will always bend to sin without the gospel.
6. Tyrants love moral corruption but hate virtuous men.
  - Free love is the first bribe to a slave – Chesterton.
  - Revelation 2:14 – they love a brain-dead people and unthinking people to control, and fornication is a weapon of war.
7. Absolute perfection is not the point in a leader.
  - Psalm 51:11; not about salvation but about the wisdom to rule.
  - David forfeited the throne because of his sin.
  - 1 Kings 15:14
  - we are not perfectionists, cynics, anarchists. Our current system the Dems want to go 100 miles an hour the Repubs 10, but both are heading toward destruction.
8. Tyranny is a judgement from God for the sins of the people.
  - 1 Samuel 8:11 the ruler with take.
  - Deut says Israel would get a king but not like the kings of the other nations. God restricted them to not obtain horses, wives and gold.
  - God still delivers his people but we have not been jealous over liberty issues. Righteousness establishes a throne, but unrighteousness destabilizes a throne.

9. All Civil Authorities are under Gods authority.
  - Romans 13. They are servants and servants take orders.
  - Ahab was a bad actor.
10. Civil disobedience is required of Christians where matters of worship and the gospel are concerned.
  - Daniel 3:18; Acts 5:29
11. Civil disobedience in other areas
  - 1 Samuel 24:5; 24:22; 1 Corinthians 11:32-33
  - Peter and Paul were fugitives from the law, like David with Saul yet David honored Saul more than any other, but he didn't turn himself in.
12. Civil Government is covenantal.
  - 2 Chronicles 23:16
  - There is a dual covenant.
13. No Human authority is absolute.
  - Man is limited
  - Daniel 4:35 everyone has boundaries.
14. Not everything legal is lawful.
  - Revelation 13:17
  - What is against the law does not define sin or vice versa, God does.
15. Faithful Believers will be accused of Rebellion and treason.
  - Elisha and Ahab 2 Chronicles 20:13
16. Bible teaches the consent of the governed.
  - 1 Kings 12:1
  - Rehoboam was elected. Kings of Israel were elected.
  - The idea of "divine right" of kings is not biblical.
17. a lot of the character of the people and rulers are tied together.
  - Proverbs 29:12
18. Resistance of tyranny is not the same resistance of the civil order.
  - 2 Chronicles 23:11 the throne was defended by removing the usurper from the throne. God has a covenant with government. Government has one to its people and with they break it the people have a right to speak up.

19. Lesser magistrates obey the priest

-2 Chronicles 23:1-3

The pretender was removed from the throne.

When the higher ups break the law, act tyrannically, the lessors have the responsibility not to enforce.

20. we must care what kind of company our rulers keep.

-prov 25:5. It matters who comes to the white house, who is invited.

21. Christian history matters.

Romans 13:1

Powers are established by God.

Render to Caesars in his images and to God's His and you are made in God's image, you don't render those to the government.

Caesar does not have the right to define what belongs to him, God does that.

Our constitution was write

# **Spiritual Voter Guide**

Biblical Principles for Cultural issues

## **Marriage**

God made one man and woman - Genesis 2:24, Matthew 19:4-6. Satan redefines it with no limits.

## **Gender**

Two human genders, male and female – Genesis 1:27, Matthew 19:4-6. Satan perverts this with a gender spectrum

## **Race**

There is one human race – Acts 17:26. Satan devises other categories of superior and inferior pitting them against each other.

## **Unborn life**

Humans are made in God's image from conception. – Genesis 9:6, Psalm 139:13. Satan perverts this to sacrifice children in the womb of a woman.

## **Identity**

Humans are made in God's image – Genesis 1:27. Satan perverts this with the believe that humans can create an image unto themselves.

## **Dominion**

Man was given to rule over the creation – Genesis 1:28. Satan pushes the thought that creation has dominion over man.

## **Work**

God gave man the example of work then gave man the gift of work. But because of sin and to remind man of his dependency on God, He made work hard and difficult. Genesis 2:15, 3:17-19. Satan says you are entitled to all your needs apart from work and demands others, such as governments to pay for them.

## **Sexuality**

God created sex to be within marriage, between one man and one woman. Genesis 1:28, Malachi 2:15. Satan says sex is for self-fulfillment by whatever means

## **Family**

God created the family unit, of a man, woman and children, as the foundation of society. Genesis 2:24, Psalm 78. Satan does all he can to destroy, redefine and manipulate.

## **Climate**

God says until he's done with the earth it will continue to cycle in seasons, hot and cold, planting and harvesting. Genesis 8:22, Jeremiah 5:24