

# GOOD CITIZENS IN GOD'S KINGDOM

April 13th & 14th, 2024



1. What is your general attitude toward politics? (A) I could care less (B) I am engaged but not worried (C) I lose sleep thinking about it (D) Other

## READ Romans 13:1-7

2. According to **Romans 13:1**, why should followers of Jesus submit to those in authority? What makes submitting to authorities difficult?
3. What does verse 4 (and vs 6) call those in authority? Is this true even of those who have policies or character that are contrary to biblical principles?
4. Verse 7 says “give to everyone what you owe them” and then mentions respect. Some might interpret this statement to mean that leaders we dislike aren’t worthy of respect. Is that what this verse is saying?
5. Paul is a great example of knowing and living within the law of the land (and knowing when appropriate to not submit to earthly authorities - more on that next week). How do you see Paul’s knowledge of the law within the following passages?

**Acts 16:35-39 \* Acts 22:22-29 \* Acts 23:1-11 \* Acts 25:8-12**

6. How can Paul’s example, courage & humility encourage us to make sure we take advantage of the laws that govern us? In what ways can we demonstrate good citizenship?
7. How did Paul show respect for the office even if the actions of the leader weren’t just or appropriate in the Acts 23 passage above?

## READ 1 Timothy 2:1-4

8. Which do you find easier to do: criticize leaders or pray for them? What benefit does criticizing leaders have? What benefit does praying for leaders have? How does praying for others change our hearts for them?
9. How can monologues, pundits and memes actually be counterproductive to a godly approach towards politics?

## READ Ephesians 6:10-20.

10. Who is our battle ultimately against? Why is this important for us to remember? How do we best prepare ourselves in another election year according to this passage?

## CLOSE IN PRAYER

For our healthy engagement, proper perspective, faithful witness and also for our leaders.