

## INTRO

**As we begin our series titled Kingdom Citizens -*living the Sermon on the Mount during an Election Year*, what do you hope to gain from this series?**

**What is your relationship with American politics? Indifferent, highly involved, fearful, etc. How have the previous election cycles affected your relationships with family, peers, and coworkers?**

## IDEA 1

This series is a call to elevate our citizenship in the Kingdom of God above our allegiance to an earthly political party, and to learn from the teachings of Jesus how his citizens navigate the realities of our earthly citizenship....The temptation (for us) is to break the commands of Jesus in order to advance the agenda of Jesus.

**What does it mean to be a citizen of the Kingdom of God?**

**How are we called to live differently as Kingdom Citizens?**

**What are some ways we break the commands of Jesus in order to advance the agenda of Jesus? (Particularly in the political sphere).**

## IDEA 2

God extends the benefits of His grace and provision to those who actively and intentionally work for peace, quietness, and rest, which are part of God's gift of wholeness to all people. These peacemakers will stand out in society, being recognized and identified as those who belong to the family of God.

**What does it mean to 'work' for peace? What does this practically look like?**

**How can a community seeking peace change the political environment of polarization and disunity?**

**What will seeking peace in your families, friend groups, and work look like for you?**

## PRACTICE FOR THIS WEEK

This week, consider what it might look like to sit down with a family member, friend, or coworker who may have a different political viewpoint than you in order to listen. Consider some of the practical steps below:

### Practical ways to be a peacemaker during this election season

- Start with story
- Ask good questions
- Listen for understanding
- Be slow to take offense

## EXPERIENCING GOD TOGETHER

Jennifer highlighted Ephesians 4:2-3 as a scripture to note what seeking peace looks like. As a group, take some time to read this passage in order to see what stands out to each person.

*Ephesians 4:2-3 Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love. Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace.*

What from this passage stands out to you?

Who are some people that God is bringing to mind when you think about this passage?

How is God asking you to make every effort to keep you united in the Spirit with fellow believers who may disagree with you?