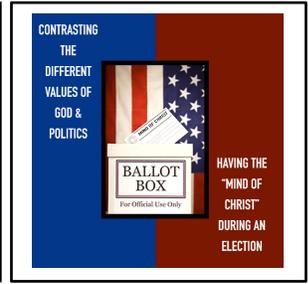




Sermon Discussion Guide
**“HAVING THE ‘MIND OF CHRIST’
DURING AN ELECTION”**
October 30, 2022
Written by Pastor Ruben M. Ortega



Icebreaker: When you hear the word politics, what comes to your mind? Why?

“For this is our confidence: The testimony of our conscience is that we have conducted ourselves in the world, and especially toward you, with God-given sincerity and purity, not by fleshly wisdom, but by God’s grace.” (2 Corinthians 1:12)

THIS IS ONLY A GUIDE.

OUR DESIRE IS THAT YOU WOULD USE THIS “GUIDE” TO LEAD YOU INTO DEEPER PERSONAL STUDY.

Let’s start where we left off with our past series. (Romans 12:2) *“Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may discern what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God.”* “Do not be conformed to this age,” don’t just follow the crowd. Don’t conform to being like the people of this world.

“So that you may discern” because many of you have some big decisions to make before November 8th. And if you allow God to transform your mind with a new way of thinking. First, you’re going to make better decisions about what God wants you to do, and second, the stress in your life is going to go down.

After this election the goal is for you to be able to say what Paul said in (2 Corinthians 1:12) *“For this is our confidence: The testimony of our conscience is that we have conducted ourselves in the world, and especially toward you, with God-given sincerity and purity, not by fleshly wisdom but by God’s grace.”* That’s what I want people to be able to say about you and you say about yourself after the election’s all over, that you were guided by God’s grace and not the human wisdom of this world.

Who we desperately need to hear from is God, not another commentator, not another poll, not another political pep rally. Then you will base your values and your priorities and your choices in life, your decisions on the word and not the world. And these two things, the world and the word are directly opposed to each other.

Here’s what God said in (Isaiah 55:8-9) *“⁸ For My thoughts are not your thoughts, and your ways are not My ways.” This is the Lord’s declaration. ⁹ “For as heaven is higher than earth, so My ways are higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.”*

Questions:

1. (2 Corinthians 1:12) *“For this is our confidence: The testimony of our conscience is that we have conducted ourselves in the world, and especially toward you, with God-given sincerity and purity, not by fleshly wisdom but by God’s grace.”* What are some ways you have sought God’s will during this election season?
2. *“The church is not peripheral to the world; the world is peripheral to the church! The church is Christ’s Body, in which he speaks and acts, and by which he fills everything with his presence.”* (Ephesians 1:23) [Msg] For people without faith, politics matters more than anything else. How does that contrast with the biblical view?

3. "Do not put your trust in princes, who are mortal men. They cannot save you." (Palms 146:3) [NCV] How does knowing God is in control affect your mindset during this challenging time? How can we encourage others, regardless of the election results, they can rely on God for his wisdom and protection?
4. "Welcome with open arms fellow believers who don't see things the way you do. And don't jump all over them every time they do or say something you don't agree with." (Romans 14:1) [Msg] We are told in Romans to welcome fellow believers that don't see things the way we do and to remain peaceful with each other. What are some steps we can take to share our ideas to promote unity.
5. "A wise person's heart will lead in the right way. But the heart of a fool will always lead in the wrong way." (Ecclesiastes 10:2) What are some good characteristics we look for in our leaders?

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WEEKLY CALENDAR:

Please Refer To The Weekly Sunday Bulletin

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT: OCTOBER 23, 2022

"Give, and it will be given to you; a good measure—pressed down, shaken together, and running over—will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you."
 (Luke 6:38)

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Weekly budget requirement:	\$5,319
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Year-to-date required:	\$90,423
<u>Yearly-up-to-date received:</u>	<u>\$77,423</u>
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