



## **Faith and... Politics**

**Date:** 21<sup>st</sup> July 2019

**Speaker:** Steve Philpott, Becky Stamps

**Sermon series and title for talk:** Faith and Politics

**Key verses:** Mark 12v13-17

### **Talk Summary**

Faith and politics can be a difficult mixture. This week we thought about:-

- God's original plan for people in relationship to God bringing order (Gen 1.27)
- Sin, Israel's response and Daniel's vision (Daniel 7) – how we respond to 'beasts'
- Old Testament characters and politics – Joseph, Esther, Daniel
- Politics surrounding Jesus – Rome, Pharisees, Herodians, and Passover
- Mark 12v13-17, 'give to Caesar... give to God.....'
- Our response:
  - 1. Recognise & Obey Government;
  - 2. Recognise & Resist Government;
  - 3. Christians are primarily exiles now
- We should:
  - 1. Know whose image we carry;
  - 2. Pray our thoughts;
  - 3. Participate; 4. Be gracious

## **Group Discussion Questions**

### **Welcome**

*If you don't eat together as a small group then you might want to start the group with some kind of ice breaker question. Remember to introduce yourselves when there are new people.*

### **Worship**

*Worship is not just singing, it is thanking God for who he is and what he has done and is lived out through a life of trusting obedience. Discussing this together is an act of worship.*

*(Small group worship resources can be found at [bvc.so/sgworship](http://bvc.so/sgworship))*

- What are you thankful for this week?
- Where has God been at work in your life?
- When have you taken risks in faith and obedience this week?

*If you have a time of singing you can skip the above questions but please do ask this question each week:*

- How is 'Read and Listen' going? What has God been speaking to you about this week? *(Go around the group quickly don't spend a long time on it)*

### **Word**

*We want our thoughts and lives to be shaped by what God says in the Bible. If most of your group weren't there on a Sunday base the discussion on the main passage rather than the talk.*

- What from this week's talk/Bible passage stood out to you, and/or you found challenging? Why?
- Follow Jesus: What does this passage teach me about God?
- Live life to the full: What does this passage teach me about myself?
- Make a difference: What is God inviting you to do or change as a result of what we have discussed?  
*(You can give everyone a minute or so in silence to write it down) Spend some time praying for one another.*

### **Witness**

*We want to be investing in authentic relationships with those who don't know Jesus yet and inviting them to anything where they might meet other Christians and Jesus. Pick one of the below each week:*

- How would you share what you have learned with a non-church friend?
- What church events coming up would your friends appreciate an invitation to?