



November 13, 2016
Render to Caesar, Render to God



This week, Corey addressed generosity and our political posture in the wake of an emotional election.

READ

Luke 20:20-26

REFLECT

1. Corey used a quote from Bishop Tom Wright emphasizing the importance of Jesus' word choice of "render which literally means give what is owed." How does this quote and the concept of limited allegiance to the state strike you?
2. Corey talked about the ambiguous relationship Christians must have with politics, saying that there is no such thing as a Christian party and we must refrain from claiming Jesus supports specific politicians or policies. Have you heard these arguments in the public sector before?
3. What do you think of the Joe Carter quote: "Whoever wins the presidency, tomorrow I'll congratulate their supporters and then cheerfully take my place as part of the loyal opposition"?
4. Corey talked about some of the reactions, either by viewing this election as a the "last chance to restore America" or the apocalyptic proclamations of doom as both deriving from a belief that "change comes through political power." Have you fall prey to this belief? How can you let go of these concerns and hold onto hope in Jesus?

PRAY

- + Confess to God how often we give our full allegiance and support to political parties, candidates, policies, and positions, how we use theology to support our personal preferences instead of following the words of Christ.
- + Thank God for providing an unfading, unending, and undeniable hope in Jesus Christ.
- + Pray for spiritual renewal and revival in our community.
- + Pray for reconciliation in our country.

PRACTICE

- + When discussing the first point of limited allegiance, Corey emphasized the two-sided application. If you're upset over the election results, how can you find a way be a good citizen, work for the common good, and support the elected officials you do not respect? If you're more enthusiastic about the results, how can you prevent people equating elected officials and political parties with God? How can you differentiate the limits of political allegiance?
- + What part of the body are you failing to hear? What steps toward reconciliation can you take this week?