



What does the Bible say about politics?



CARE
FOR WHAT
YOU BELIEVE



Discuss

**What comes to mind
when you hear the
word 'politics'?**

You are political

DOWNING
STREET SW1
CITY OF WESTMINSTER



CARE
FOR WHAT
YOU BELIEVE

“We do not say that a man who takes no interest in politics is a man who minds his own business; we say that he has no business here at all.”



Pericles of Athens



CARE
FOR WHAT
YOU BELIEVE

“seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the LORD for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.”

(Jeremiah 29:7)



CARE
FOR WHAT
YOU BELIEVE



Discuss

**Why do Christians
sometimes refuse to
see themselves as
political?**

“Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.”

(Romans 12:2)



CARE
FOR WHAT
YOU BELIEVE

Government is good



CARE
FOR WHAT
YOU BELIEVE

Government is good

“Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established.”

(Romans 13:1)



CARE
FOR WHAT
YOU BELIEVE

Government is good

“When the righteous thrive, the people rejoice; when the wicked rule, the people groan.”

(Proverbs 29:2)



CARE
FOR WHAT
YOU BELIEVE

Government is good

**“to punish those who do wrong
and to commend those
who do right.”**

(1 Peter 2:14)



CARE
FOR WHAT
YOU BELIEVE

Government should be obeyed



CARE
FOR WHAT
YOU BELIEVE

Government should be obeyed

“Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established.”

(Romans 13:1)



CARE
FOR WHAT
YOU BELIEVE

Government should be obeyed

“Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honour the emperor.”

(1 Peter 2:17)



CARE
FOR WHAT
YOU BELIEVE

Government should be obeyed

“This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God’s servants, who give their full time to governing. Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honour, then honour.”

(Romans 13:6–7)

Government should be obeyed

**“Give back to
Caesar what is Caesar's
and to God what is God's.”**

(Mark 12:17)



CARE
FOR WHAT
YOU BELIEVE

Government is not God



CARE
FOR WHAT
YOU BELIEVE

Government can be resisted



CARE
FOR WHAT
YOU BELIEVE

Government can be resisted

“Which is right in God’s eyes: to listen to you, or to him? You be the judges! As for us, we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard.”

(Acts 4:19-20)



CARE
FOR WHAT
YOU BELIEVE

Government can be resisted

**Peter and the other apostles
replied: “We must obey God
rather than human beings!”**

(Acts 5:29)



CARE
FOR WHAT
YOU BELIEVE

Government can be resisted

**“Hate what is evil;
cling to what is good.”**

(Romans 12:9)



CARE
FOR WHAT
YOU BELIEVE

Government can be resisted

“Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.”

(Proverbs 31:8-9)



CARE
FOR WHAT
YOU BELIEVE



Discuss

Where do you find it most difficult to respect and obey authorities?

When do you think it might be appropriate for Christians to disobey the government?

How to engage with politics



CARE
FOR WHAT
YOU BELIEVE

How to engage with politics

PRAY



CARE
FOR WHAT
YOU BELIEVE

How to engage with politics

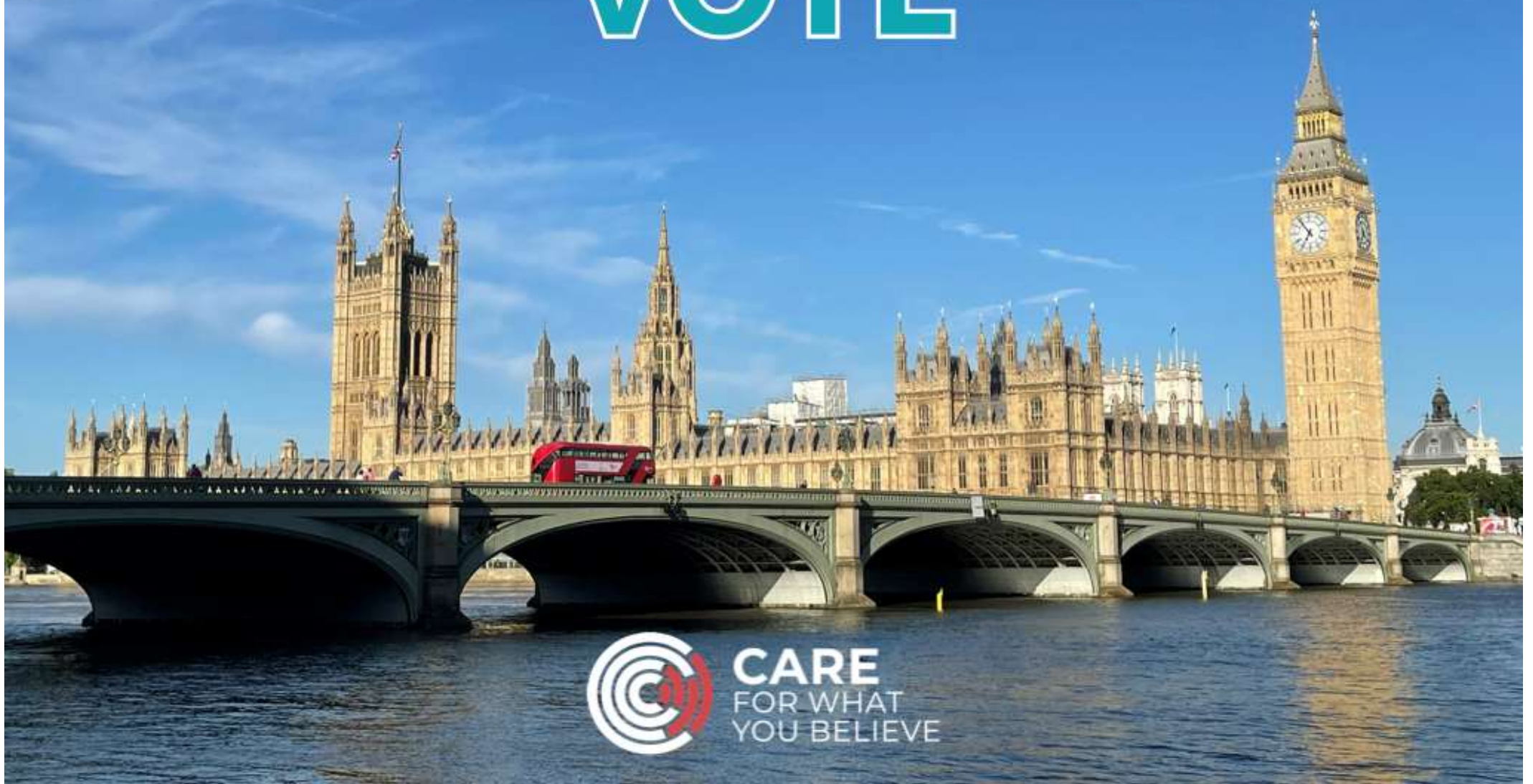
PRAY

“I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people — for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.”

(1 Timothy 2:1-2)

How to engage with politics

VOTE



CARE
FOR WHAT
YOU BELIEVE

How to engage with politics

LOVE



CARE
FOR WHAT
YOU BELIEVE

How to engage with politics

LOVE

“‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’”

(Matthew 22:37-39)

How to engage with politics

LOVE

**“He has shown you, O mortal,
what is good. And what does the
LORD require of you? To act justly
and to love mercy and to walk
humbly with your God.”**

(Micah 6:8)

How to engage with politics

SPEAK



CARE
FOR WHAT
YOU BELIEVE

How to engage with politics

SPEAK

“the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

(John 1:14)



CARE
FOR WHAT
YOU BELIEVE



How to engage with politics

SERVE



CARE
FOR WHAT
YOU BELIEVE

How to engage with politics

SERVE

**“We have different gifts,
according to the grace given to
each of us.
If your gift... is serving, then serve”**

(Romans 12:6-7)



CARE
FOR WHAT
YOU BELIEVE

“It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; ... who spends himself in a worthy cause”



Theodore Roosevelt



CARE
FOR WHAT
YOU BELIEVE



Discuss

**Why are Christians
reluctant to get involved
in politics?**

**How can you speak up for
the vulnerable and
powerless?**

Q&A



CARE
FOR WHAT
YOU BELIEVE