

DISCUSSION GUIDE

WHAT EVERY CHRISTIAN NEEDS TO KNOW ABOUT AMERICA
Stand-Alone Sermon

ICEBREAKER: How many American states have you visited in your lifetime? Which was your favorite and why?

OVERVIEW: On July 4, the United States celebrates its birthday as a nation. And we have a lot to celebrate. It is a blessing to live in the land of the free and the home of the brave. What are our responsibilities to our nation? Should we engage in politics or stay out of it? Is it okay to just mind our own business and focus on faith, family, and work? In this discussion we will go deeper with topic of Christian citizenship.

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday's message?)
2. Why are you thankful to live in the USA?
3. Are you proud to be an American? Explain.
4. What happened on July 4, 1776?

5. Read Romans 13:1-7. This letter (the epistle of Romans) was written to Christians living in the city of Rome during the first century AD.
 - a. What are Christians commanded to do?
 - b. What does this passage teach about government?
 - c. According to this passage, is civil government good and necessary, or bad and irrelevant? Explain.
6. According to Jeremiah 29:7, God's people must pursue the well-being of the nation, praying to the Lord on its behalf. What are ways we can pursue the well-being of our nation?
7. What are some specific things we can pray for as we lift up our nation in prayer?
8. What are America's first principles (from Sunday's sermon), and why is it important for Americans to know them?

The Last Word: "One of the penalties for refusing to participate in politics is that you end up being governed by your inferiors." — Plato