

The Church in Politics: Policy for Valley Church of Cupertino  
Approved September 6, 2016

We believe that Christians should participate in the process that decides who governs us, and pray for those who rule over us. "First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. (1 Tim 2:1,2) Individual Christians can and should be involved in the political process. (Romans 13:1-7; Matt. 22:17-21). We should be good citizens.

However, we see no specific Biblical instruction to the local church collectively to be involved politically. We ought not participate in order to gain political power. God intended government to preserve order and ensure justice, not to build the Kingdom of God. The mandate of the church is to preach the Gospel and to make disciples of Jesus Christ. When the church has confused the two it has gotten into trouble.

When there are cultural or political issues that need to be addressed, Valley Church leadership will do so publically, from the pulpit, in print, or both. We will not provide space at Valley Church for individual members to express viewpoints on political issues or approve solicitation of signatures for petitions.

We encourage individual Christians to engage in political issues, causes, and petitions, and to speak to anyone they wish to on these issues.

We ought to be praying for God to pour out His mercy on our nation as we seek to elect godly individuals who will lead well.