

### Christians, Science, and Politics

Although the majority of Christians are not anti-science, the large majority of non-Christians think we are and although no mainline denomination is associated with a political party most (75%) non-Christians feel we are too political. Science helps us understand how the universe works. Faith, on the other hand, aims to teach us what our existence means. Christians get it wrong in the area of politics when they too closely associate their faith with a political party, or engage in slander and mean-spirited partisan attacks.

#### 1st Step

Ephesians 4:29-32

John 13:34-35

Matthew 22:36-40

#### Step In

**Opening Prayer:** Prayerfully, read Ephesians 5:1-2, Amen.  
What is the relationship between the Bible, faith and science?

What are some ways that you have witness Christians being unhealthy in regard to the practice of politics...as politicians? as ministers? as parishioners?

#### Step Up

Some claim that the Creation stories in Genesis are not meant to teach us **how** God created, only that it was God **who** created. Others have explained that, science asks the questions "What and How" while theology seeks to answer "Why and For What Purpose?" How do you understand the creation stories of Genesis 1-3 in relation to science? How have you seen faith leaders avoid the "us" versus "them" approach to politics?

#### Step Out

Discuss "why" and "how" Christians get it right when they see science as an important companion in the quest for knowledge and truth. Where have you seen this occur? How can you be a voice of reason in the dialogue between faith and science? When it comes to politics, some Christians say and do some things that are the antithesis (opposing) of the Gospel message. Share some steps you can take in sharing your political ideology, that reflect the Great Commandments (Love God and your neighbor as yourself)?

#### Sermon Notes