

# JESUS 2020

LIFE, LIBERTY, AND THE PURSUIT OF ~~HAPPINESS~~  
HOLINESS

GIVE ME LIBERTY

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2020

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights..." The Declaration of Independence is based on the understanding that our rights and freedoms come from God. That idea was revolutionary, but it wasn't original to Thomas Jefferson, it came from Jesus. Long before the establishment of the modern democracy, Jesus' followers were champions of a freedom that no government can give or take away. Join us online or on campus for part three of **Jesus 2020**, as we learn about our freedom and the responsibility that comes with it.

**Passage:** 1 Corinthians 9:1-27

**Principle:** The \_\_\_\_\_ of freedom (*Galatians 4:7; Galatians 5:1; Romans 8:2*)

The \_\_\_\_\_ of freedom (*1 Corinthians 9:19 and 22*)

The \_\_\_\_\_ of freedom (*1 Corinthians 9:27-38*)

**Practice:** Don't sacrifice your \_\_\_\_\_ to make a political \_\_\_\_\_.

## Daily Readings:

DAY 1: 1 CORINTHIANS 9  
DAY 2: GALATIANS 4  
DAY 3: ROMANS 8  
DAY 4: PHILIPPIANS 2  
DAY 5: 1 SAMUEL 8  
DAY 6: 2 SAMUEL 15  
DAY 7: PSALM 146

## Suggested Resources:

**Books:** *BEFORE YOU VOTE*, BY DAVID PLATT  
*THE MYTH OF A CHRISTIAN NATION*,  
BY GREG BOYD

**Other sermons  
at *ssbc.org*:**

**LET EARTH RECEIVE HER KING**  
(2016)  
**ONE NATION UNDER GOD**  
(2012)

**Resources on  
*RightNow Media*:**

*CULTURE SHOCK*, BY CHIP INGRAM  
*ONE*, BY DENNIS ROUSE

# SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

The purpose of this series is not to try to persuade people to vote for one particular person or political party. Nor is the purpose to be critical of all parties in an attempt to disengage voters. The purpose is to try to get Jesus' followers to place their allegiance to Him and His kingdom above their personal political preference and to live as if His is the only Kingdom that will endure.

## HANGOUT [WARMING UP TO THE TOPIC]:

1. Who has been your favorite American president to serve during your lifetime and why? In your opinion, what were/are that president's strengths and weaknesses?
2. Was it hard to identify a weakness for your favorite president? Why or why not?

Today we are going to explore why, as Christians, our hope should never be in earthly leaders, regardless of how we feel about their policies or leadership styles.

## HEAR [LISTENING TO GOD THROUGH SCRIPTURE]:

3. Read 1 Samuel 8:1-9.
  - Why did the people want an earthly king? Based on the people's criticism of Samuel and his sons, why is this an irrational request?
  - What does God say to comfort Samuel?
  - How does God respond to their request? What should this tell us about God and His responses to our requests?
4. Read 1 Samuel 15:10-11 and 2 Samuel 12:7-10.
  - Saul had disobeyed God's directives and now Samuel had to confront Saul. Why do you think God regretted making Saul king? Has there ever been an earthly ruler who has not disappointed God?
  - David was known as a man after God's own heart, yet, like Saul, he disobeyed God. David would face consequences that would affect him, his family, and the nation of Israel for generations to come. Do you believe the personal morality and character of our elected leaders matter? Why or why not?
  - Saul was Israel's first king. He was not a good man and was an even worse king. David was a man after God's own heart and was Israel's most beloved king. After reading these two passages, what similarities do you see? What lessons might we learn from this comparison?
5. Read Psalm 146.
  - What warning does the Psalmist offer? (*verse 3*)
  - What is the destiny of every earthly leader and why is that simple reality important to remember? (*verse 4*)
  - Psalm 146 reads like a campaign ad for the King of Heaven! What are some of the promises and actions described in this Psalm? Which action or promise stated in Psalm 146 is particularly meaningful to you today and why?

## HUDDLE [MAKING IT PERSONAL AND PRAYING TOGETHER - IN HUDDLES]:

6. How much confidence do you have in your earthly leaders (parents, boss, teachers, pastors, elected officials, etc.)? What gives you more confidence in some of those individuals as opposed to others? How devastated would you be if one of them failed you? Would it affect your faith? Why or why not? Talk about it, invite accountability, and take time to pray.