

# POLITICAL STANCE



## OUR APPROACH IS:

Jesus clearly declared our priorities when he said, "Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness." Matthew 6:33.

Discovery encourages every citizen to be civic-minded and engaged in community, national, and global affairs, to research candidates and vote your convictions, but to always remember his or her first allegiance is to God's Kingdom.

Jesus teaches a radical ethic of love in his Kingdom that transcends any issue – a Kingdom that is larger than any political party or even national culture. God's Kingdom is global, pervasive, and expanding through the sacrificial love of its followers. Jesus leads his followers by caring for and loving those who did not agree with him, as well as giving up his life for the people who wanted to kill him and for people trapped in their own sin. Such a model of radical love motivates Jesus' followers to die to ourselves and sacrificially love our friends, people we disagree with, opponents, enemies and global neighbors we've not even met.

Peter teaches that tone is as important as content for people sharing their convictions. He teaches, "Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience..." 1Pet. 3:16. To coin a phrase from Martin Marty, we embrace passionate civility. We do not expect a follower of Christ to reduce their conviction about an ethical or political issue but we do encourage Kingdom behavior and language in the way that issue is discussed.

God's Kingdom transcends both political party and political agenda. Therefore Republicans, Democrats, Tea Party, Green Party and people of other political persuasions are welcome at Discovery. Discovery encourages Christians to develop strong convictions on ethical and political matters, to vote intelligently, and most of all, to lead the way in serving people and loving God regardless of political persuasion.