



## Session 2

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### Big Idea:

How do Christians engage in politics in our relationships and stay united?

### GROUP OPENER

Discuss with the group why politics continues to be a divisive topic. Why does it have the ability to create such strong divisions and disagreements?

### GROUP DISCUSSION

- Read Philippians 1:27-2:18 and Twice out loud, in different versions of the Bible – everyone listens.
- What are some significant observations you have about this text? What stood out? What didn't you like? What was confusing?
- What does this passage teach us about God? How does it change how I see God?
- What does this passage teach us about humanity/ourselves? How would it change how I treat others?
- What does this passage teach us about obedience? How should it affect the way I live?

July 21  
WEEKEND

### As a Group

The sermon discussed these three Marks of Fundamentalists:

1. Certainty – hold their pet-peeve beliefs with absolute certainty
2. Ferocity – act against their objectors with rage, bitterness, and dismissal
3. Solidarity – build an insular community that excludes anyone not all-in

Consider the community that Jesus calls us to from Philippians.

1. Certainty – hold firmly to the foundation of your faith.
2. Grace – act in the interest of the people who disagree with you.
3. Unity – build a community that exists to invite those outside the faith to experience the grace of Jesus.

Discuss how these visions are different. Based on what you read in Philippians would you change or add to this list?

Discuss the following quote:

Shadi Hamid says “If secularists hoped that declining religiosity would make for more rational politics, drained of faith’s inflaming passions, they are likely disappointed. As Christianity’s hold, in particular, has weakened, ideological intensity and fragmentation have risen. American faith, it turns out, is as fervent as ever; it’s just that what was once religious belief has now been channeled into political belief ... This is what religion without religion looks like.”

Why do you think people tend toward “religion”?

### ACTION STEPS

*I will statement...*

- Based on what God is teaching in this passage, what should I do? Reflect for a minute or two and develop an action statement. Put it in the form, “I Will \_\_\_\_\_”. Make it concrete, simple, and achievable. Share your “I Will” statement with the group.