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LEAD PASTOR

Philippians 1:27-30

Above all, you must live as citizens of heaven, conducting yourselves in a manner worthy of the Good News about Christ. Then, whether I come and see you again or only hear about you, I will know that you are standing together with one spirit and one [mind], fighting together for the faith, which is the Good News. Don't be intimidated in any way by your enemies. This will be a sign to them that they are going to be destroyed, but that you are going to be saved, even by God Himself.

Philippians 1:27-30

For you have been given not only the privilege of trusting in Christ but also the privilege of suffering for Him. We are in this struggle together. You have seen my struggle in the past, and you know that I am still in the midst of it.

Week 1 - Politics in the Public Square

How do Christians engage publicly?

Week 2 - Politics in our Relationships

How do Christians stay united?

Week 3 - Politics in my Heart

How do Christians stay Christian?

Gen Z

YouTube at (61%), followed by TikTok (57%), Instagram (51%), Snapchat (43%), Twitter (35%) and Facebook (33%).

Millennials

Just under a third list TikTok as a regular news source, over half go to Facebook and YouTube.

Gen X

Roughly half (51%) of online Gen Xers get political and government news on Facebook in a given week and about half (46%) do so on local TV.

Boomers

Primary source is TV news.

Two Things that Drive the Algorithms

1. What are you into?
2. What is everyone else into?

We've put in the hands of politicians...

An addictive and personalized experience that exploits your most private desires, plays on your darkest emotions, and promotes scandal and outrage with as little engagement friction as possible.

- Who is this promoting as the hero or villain?
- What is this saying is right and wrong with the USA?
- What positions is this saying are good and evil?
- Who is this telling me to love or hate?
- What is this saying are the stakes of my political choices?
- Who even made this and what are they about?
- Does this source seem honest or extreme?
- Is this cultivating rage and hate in me?
- Is this focusing my attention on things largely out of my control?
- Is this anxiety or fear inducing?
- Does this make me a better spouse, parent, friend, classmate, neighbor?
- Does this make me more like Jesus?



Paul preaches the Gospel for 2 yrs under house arrest as he awaits for his appeal to Caesar

Lydia & her household believe Paul & Silas beaten & thrown in jail Jailer and his household believe

Paul restores life to young Eutychus

Paul & Barnabas mistaken for gods Paul stoned

Timothy joins Paul & Silas

Paul speaks at the Areopagus

Proconsul Sergius Paulus converted

Paul sent to Rome to appeal to Caesar

Jerusalem Conference c. 49-50 AD

MAP OF PAUL'S MISSIONARY JOURNEYS

- ← Paul's first journey
- ← Paul's second journey
- ← Paul's third journey
- ← Paul's voyage to Rome
- City
- One of the "Seven Churches"



- Philippi on major highway in Greece connecting West with Asia minor.
- 42BC – Octavian + Mark Antony defeat Cassius and Brutus (assassins of Julius Caesar) in plain next to Philippi
- Octavian honors Philippi by “refounding” it as Roman military colony, giving it civic honors, and populating it with discharged veterans.
- 30BC – Octavian defeats Mark Antony near Philippi.
- Forgives Antony's soldiers and settles them in Philippi
- Fast-forward to Paul, Philippi had become the urban political center of the region
- Convert #1 - Lydia, wealthy business woman
- Convert #2 - Jailer, Roman soldier and law enforcement

1:27A – POLITICK,
ABOVE ALL, FOR KING JESUS!

Above all, you must live as citizens of heaven [πολιτεύομαι – politeuomai], conducting yourselves in a manner worthy of the Good News about Christ.

1:27B – THIS WILL RESULT IN
(1) CHRISTIAN UNITY.

Then, whether I come and see you again or only hear about you, I will know that you are standing together with one spirit and one [mind], fighting together for the faith, which is the Good News.

1:28-29 – THIS WILL RESULT IN (2) SUPERNATURAL COURAGE.

Don't be intimidated in any way by your enemies. This will be a sign to them that they are going to be destroyed, but that you are going to be saved, even by God himself. For you have been given not only the privilege of trusting in Christ but also the privilege of suffering for Him.

Christian was a partisan label suggesting political dissidence.

- Augustiani* – people of Caesar
- Herodianoi* – people of Herod Antipas
- Pompeiani* - citizens of Pompeii
- Christiani* – people of Christ

PHILIPPIANS 1:28

Don't be intimidated in any way by your enemies. This will be a sign to them that they are going to be destroyed, but that you are going to be saved, even by God Himself.

Philippians 1:21-24

For to me, living means living for Christ, and dying is even better. But if I live, I can do more fruitful work for Christ. So I really don't know which is better. I'm torn between two desires: I long to go and be with Christ, which would be far better for me. But for your sakes, it is better that I continue to live.

PHILIPPIANS 1:28

Don't be intimidated in any way by your enemies. This will be a sign to them that they are going to be destroyed, but that you are going to be saved, even by God Himself.

Acts 4:24-28

“O Sovereign Lord, Creator of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them—You spoke long ago by the Holy Spirit through our ancestor David, Your servant, saying, ‘Why were the nations so angry? Why did they waste their time with futile plans? The kings of the earth prepared for battle; the rulers gathered together against the Lord and against His Messiah.’ “In fact, this has happened here in this very city!

Acts 4:24-28

For Herod Antipas, Pontius Pilate the governor, the Gentiles, and the people of Israel were all united against Jesus, your Holy servant, whom You anointed. But everything they did was determined beforehand according to Your will.

ACTS 4:29-30

And now, O Lord, hear their threats, and give us,
Your servants...

Acts 4:29-30

And now, O Lord, hear their threats, and give us, Your servants ... a politician to save us and protect us. Bless us with First Amendment rights. Bless us also with Second Amendment rights just in case someone infringes upon our First Amendment rights. Give us a President who is not existential threat to democracy. Bless us with a government that stays out of our business when it comes to the issues that we think are important but then regulates when it comes to the issues that they think are important. Set the Oval Office straight! No, actually the Senate!

Acts 4:29-30

No, actually the House! No, wait! What I mean is the Supreme Court. No, to be specific, just Majorie Taylor-Green. No, wait, AOC. No wait, the rich. No, the gun lobby! No, the woke crowd! No, the ballot dumps! No, the cops! No, BLM! No, the privileged white men! No, your momma! No, your momma! No, YOUR momma! Oh, and secure the borders. Deport the immigrants. Tax the rich. Erase our debt. Eradicate gender constructs. Support Israel. No, Palestine! No, Ukraine! No, Russia! Stop the censorship!

Acts 4:29-30

Get DEI in public schools! Keep your hands off my body, because as the Bible once said, 'My body, my rights!' Save the unborn! No, save the environment! No, save the suburbs! No, save the Christians! And most important, "Keep your hands off my plastic straws." In Jesus' name, Amen.

Acts 4:29-31

"And now, O Lord, hear their threats, and give us, Your servants, great boldness in preaching your word. Stretch out Your hand with healing power; may miraculous signs and wonders be done through the name of Your holy servant Jesus." After this prayer, the meeting place shook, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit. Then they preached the word of God with boldness.