



Post-Inauguration Discussion & Prayer Guide

With the New Year well under way -- and with both the election and the inauguration behind us -- perhaps this is an opportunity for you to once again reflect on the themes of The After Party, alone or with a group.

The work of faith and citizenship does not end at the ballot box. As Christians, **our calling is to live with hope and humility**, no matter who holds office. Our ultimate hope does not rest in any leader, party, or policy, but in the true After Party — the kingdom of Christ that is coming in full. Until that day, we are invited to be faithful stewards of our public life, bearing witness to the love and justice of Jesus.

These questions are not about rehashing political arguments but about grounding ourselves in the unchanging truths of the Gospel. **They are about remembering who we are called to be: people of truth, grace, and peace in a world that often runs on fear and division.** As you discuss, listen well. As you pray, ask for wisdom. As you move forward, keep your eyes on the greater kingdom to come.

Let's begin.

“Prayer is first of all a means of listening. Prayer is an act of attention. We are not used to this. We suppose we are in charge of prayer. We aren't. God has spoken. We are required to enter a world of listening to God.”

- Eugene Peterson



THE AFTER PARTY

Discussion Questions

Looking Back: How did you feel in the months leading up to the election? Have those feelings changed since the inauguration? In what ways do you feel the same? What is different?

Hope & Hopelessness: Are there areas where you feel hopeful? Are there places where you feel discouraged or hopeless? What has contributed to those feelings?

Worries & Concerns: What are the biggest issues weighing on your heart today? Have they shifted since the election? Why or why not?

Engaging with Others: Have your relationships changed since the election? Have you reconnected with anyone or found certain divides growing wider? How do you think you can move toward healthier dialogue with those who see things differently?

Taking Action: What are the issues you feel called to engage with? How can you take active steps—big or small—toward making a difference?

Spiritual Perspective: How has your faith influenced the way you view politics now versus before the election? Have you sensed any shifts in your personal spiritual journey as a result?

Next Steps: As we move forward, what is one thing you can do in the next month to foster reconciliation, act on your convictions, or practice humility and hope in your political engagement?

After discussing these questions, take time to pray. Below is a guide to help structure your prayer time.



Guided Prayer Points

Pray for Your Heart

- Ask God to reveal any bitterness, fear, or pride that may have taken root in your heart.
- Pray for humility and wisdom as you engage with those who have different perspectives.
- Seek God's peace regarding any worries or frustrations you are carrying.

Pray for Your Relationships

- Ask God for guidance in reaching out to those you may have kept at a distance to political differences.
- Pray for softened hearts, understanding, and grace in your conversations.
- Ask for courage and discernment in your interactions with others.

Pray for Your Community

- Lift up your local community—your church, neighborhood, and workplace.
- Pray for unity, reconciliation, and a spirit of service among those around you.
- Ask God to identify opportunities for you to be a peacemaker in small but meaningful ways.

Pray for Your Local, State, and Federal Leaders

- Pray for wisdom, integrity, and humility for your local mayor, city council, and state officials.
- Lift up your governor and state legislators, asking that they lead with justice and compassion.
- Pray for the President, Vice President, and members of Congress, that they would govern with wisdom and seek the common good.
- Ask for God's guidance in how you can actively support policies and initiatives that align with His justice and mercy.

Pray for Our Nation

- Ask God to heal divisions and bring about a spirit of unity and reconciliation.
- Pray for those who feel marginalized or unheard, that their needs would be met and their voices valued.
- Seek God's vision for the role His people should play in shaping our nation toward justice, mercy, and righteousness.