



BOTTOM LINE

PICK PEOPLE OVER POLITICS.

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 9:9, NLT

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at his tax collector's booth. "Follow me and be my disciple," Jesus said to him. So Matthew got up and followed him.

Matthew 9:10-13, NLT

Later, Matthew invited Jesus and his disciples to his home as dinner guests, along with many tax collectors and other disreputable sinners. But when the Pharisees saw this, they asked the disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with such scum?" When Jesus heard this, he said, "Healthy people don't need a doctor—sick people do." Then he added, "Now go and learn the meaning of this Scripture: 'I want you to show mercy, not offer sacrifices.' For I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners."

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

These questions are a guide to get the conversation started in your group—don't feel like you need to ask everything you see here! As long as you're having a conversation, you're on the right track. Also, feel free to adjust the questions to fit the needs of your specific group.

1. How do people usually form communities? What are the things that tend to bring people together and form friendships?
2. Do you have people in your life who have differing views than you—not just on politics, but on anything? What are some of those differing areas?
3. How do you typically engage with those who don't share your same opinions or beliefs?
4. Why is it often easy to get caught up in trying to win an argument at the expense of damaging a relationship when it comes to a topic like politics?
5. When the topic of politics comes up in conversation, what's typically your initial reaction?
6. Have you ever spent time with someone who believed very differently than you. What was your conversation like?
7. Are there people in your life you've been avoiding because of your differences? If so, identify a few things that you have in common with them and make a plan to engage with them on those commonalities this week.