

## DAILY READING PLAN



Week of October 18, 2020

Religion and Politics:

Coming Together

Ephesians 4:1-3

### Day One | Read Proverbs 10:19-21

<sup>19</sup> Too much talk leads to sin. Be sensible and keep your mouth shut. <sup>20</sup> The words of the godly are like sterling silver; the heart of a fool is worthless. <sup>21</sup> The words of the godly encourage many, but fools are destroyed by their lack of common sense.

- When is the last time you said something in anger that you wish you could take back? Reflect back on that experience and discern what you'll do differently the next time you're tempted to speak in anger.

### Day Two | Read James 1:19-21

<sup>19</sup> Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry. <sup>20</sup> Human anger does not produce the righteousness God desires. <sup>21</sup> So get rid of all the filth and evil in your lives, and humbly accept the word God has planted in your hearts, for it has the power to save your souls.

- In what circumstances do you struggle to listen well? With whom can you be quick to listen and slow to speak today?

### Day Three | Read Romans 12:17-19

<sup>17</sup> Never pay back evil with more evil. Do things in such a way that everyone can see you are honorable. <sup>18</sup> Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone. <sup>19</sup> Dear friends, never take revenge. Leave that to the righteous anger of God. For the Scriptures say, "I will take revenge; I will pay them back," says the Lord.

- Do you struggle to love those with political views that are different than your own? What might it mean to live at peace with them? How can you practice that today?

### Day Four | Read Ephesians 4:1-3

<sup>1</sup> Therefore I, a prisoner for serving the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God. <sup>2</sup> Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love. <sup>3</sup> Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace.

- How are you doing at being humble, gentle and patient? How well do you overlook the faults of others? Let the Spirit search your heart, and then ask the Spirit to shape your heart to be more like Jesus.

### Day Five | Read Psalm 133

<sup>1</sup> How wonderful and pleasant it is when brothers live together in harmony! <sup>2</sup> For harmony is as precious as the anointing oil that was poured over Aaron's head, that ran down his beard and onto the border of his robe. <sup>3</sup> Harmony is as refreshing as the dew from Mount Hermon that falls on the mountains of Zion. And there the Lord has pronounced his blessing, even life everlasting.

- In music, harmony is made up of different notes. Is it possible for there to be relational harmony among people who strongly disagree? How can that happen? What might need to change in you to make it so?