

## Discerning and Deciding – CCC 4

### **1. The candidate's character**

As we noted last week, we should pray that God would give us leaders who are “persons under authority”.....

1. He/She believes Jesus is who the Bible says he is – Luke 7:2-3.

2. He/She is a God Fearer – Luke 7:4-5.

*See also Cornelius in Acts 10.*

3. He/She is a person of true humility – Luke 7:6-7.

4. He/She is a person who gladly places himself/herself under God-ordained authority – Luke 7:8-10.

*See Daniel and also Peter and John in Acts 4 & 5 on when we must disobey a human authority.*

### **2. We must examine candidates' past actions and their platforms of proposed future actions.**

*Some key issues for voters in present-day America to explore include:*

- **The Sanctity of Human Life –**

Psalms 139:13-16 (ESV)

13 For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb.

14 I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.

15 My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

16 Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.

Exodus 21:22-25 (ESV)

22 “When men strive together and hit a pregnant woman, so that her children come out, but there is no harm, the one who hit her shall surely be fined, as the woman's husband shall impose on him, and he shall pay as the judges determine.

23 But if there is harm, then you shall pay life for life,

24 eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot,

25 burn for burn, wound for wound, stripe for stripe.

Jeremiah 1:5 (ESV)

5 “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.”

Exodus 20:13 (ESV)

13 “You shall not murder.

Exodus 23:7 (ESV)

7 Keep far from a false charge, and do not kill the innocent and righteous, for I will not acquit the wicked.

***(See pp. 33, 82-83 of the 2020 Democratic Party Platform and pp. 13-14 of the 2020 Republican Party Platform.)***

- **Religious Liberty –**

Philippians 2:9-11 (ESV)

9 Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name,

10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

1 Timothy 2:1-4 (ESV)

1 First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people,

2 for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.

3 This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior,

4 who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

***No human government should do anything to impede the fulfillment of God’s command to worship Him***

***(See pp. 39, 48, 84 of the 2020 Democratic Party Platform and pp. 11, 12 of the 2020 Republican Party Platform.)***

- **Immigration/Refugees-**

Leviticus 19:33-34 (ESV)

33 “When a stranger sojourns with you in your land, you shall not do him wrong.

34 You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God.

Matthew 25:35 (ESV)

35 For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me,

Romans 13:1-2 (ESV)

1 Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.

2 Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment.

***We should demonstrate Godly kindness and compassion toward immigrants and refugees, while at the same time honoring and obeying applicable laws that do not contradict the Word of God.***

***(See pp. 61-64 of the 2020 Democratic Party Platform and pp.25-26 of the 2020 Republican Party Platform.)***

Other critical issues might include Israel/Middle East, Terrorism, Discrimination/Justice, Health Care, Education, Sex Education, the Role of the Judiciary, etc.