

A Believer's Field Guide to Politics & Culture



Navigating cultural minefields without losing your faith (or your friends).



A Two-Kingdom approach to engaging the public square.



Speaking truth with love, clarity, and zero angst.

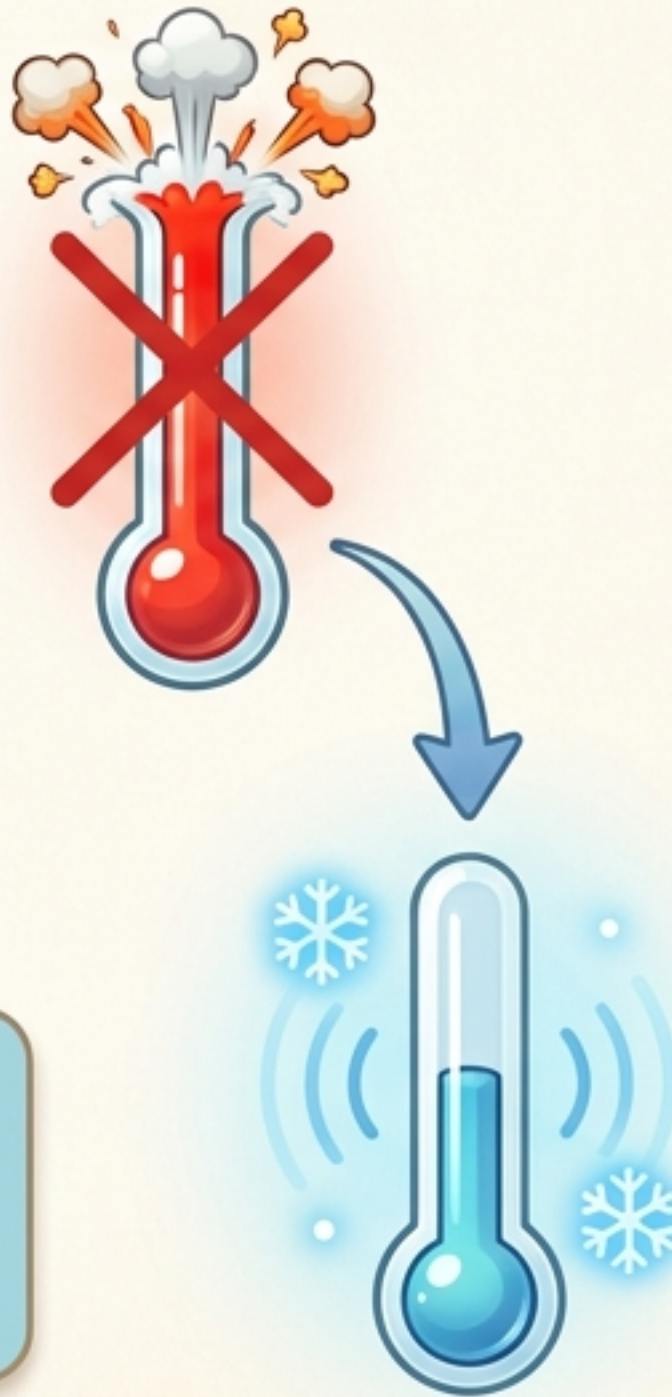


Navigating the Cultural Minefield

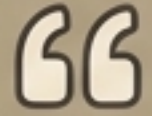
The Current Climate: Every issue feels like a battleground; lifelong relationships are being destroyed over policy disagreements.

The Trap: We succumb to the pressure of treating government policy as if it were Jesus saving the world.

The Goal: We aren't here to politicize the Gospel. We are here to take the heat out of these discussions and return to genuine, fence-line dialogue.



The Two Kingdoms Paradigm



Give to Caesar what is Caesar's, and give to God what is God's.

Kingdom of the Right (The Church)



Where God operates through grace to save hearts.

Kingdom of the Left (The State)



Where God operates through law to preserve order and keep society civilized.



The Key to Peace: Don't mix them up. Good politics can't save us, but bad politics can destroy society.

Decoding God's Work: Saving vs. Preserving



God's Saving Work (The Gospel)

The Diagnostic: WWJD?
(What Would Jesus Do?)

The Action: Turn the other cheek, serve without measure, share unmerited grace.

The Result: Eternal salvation in Christ alone.



God's Preserving Work (Civil Society)

The Diagnostic: WWFD?
(What Would the Father Do?)

The Action: Establish good government, virtuous education, and family order.

The Result: Keeping the bad guys afraid and the good guys relatively free.

Dynamic Differentiation: The State as Referee



What is the state's job?

To be a fair referee, not an active player in the game. It administers justice so citizens can live in peace.



What is our job?

To pursue a virtuous life and serve our neighbor in uncoerced freedom.



When to push back:

When the government oversteps its role by trying to grant (or revoke) intrinsic human rights, it ceases to referee and starts ruining the game.



Depoliticizing the Public Square



Focus on Principles, Not Personalities

Avoid political celebrity gossip and name-calling; it only generates emotional angst and ends the dialogue.

Debate Values, Not Platforms

Talk about what actually constitutes good government and personal responsibility.

Empower People, Not Bureaucrats

Frame your arguments around seeking to protect churches, empower families, and build up local businesses.

The Battle for Language



Whoever defines the words, wins the argument.

The Tactic: Secular progressives often redefine language to reframe debates, obfuscate reality, and ridicule moral pushback.

Action Step: Refuse to use cultural constructs. Use clear, biblical language (e.g., Male and Female, Mother, Father, and Child).

Hold the Line: Once you are coerced to say what isn't true, the debate is over and you are coerced into silence.

Four Pillars for Human Flourishing

While we shouldn't politicize everything, there are a few core issues that rise to a "Thus saith the Lord" for Caesar. These are foundational to human flourishing and civil society.



Pillar 1: Religious Liberty for All

The Principle:

Freedom of conscience is the best way to defend true freedom for everyone.

The Application:

God wants us to come to Him in freedom and truth; the government must respect that same freedom of choice.

The Goal:

The state should never pick winners and losers in faith, nor should it invade the sanctuary of the church.



Pillar 2: The Sanctity of Human Life

The Principle: Every life has intrinsic purpose and meaning, bestowed directly by the Creator.

The Danger: If the state claims the right to define a life as “not worth living,” everyone becomes vulnerable—the unborn, the elderly, and the disabled.

The Message: We aren't here to rub your nose in it; we are here to defend your life, too.



Pillar 3: Marriage as a Foundation

The Principle:

Marriage is the foundational institution for raising the next generation and structuring a healthy society.

The Application:

Believers must be able to proclaim the truth of marriage as a biological and sociological institution without fear.

The Danger: Current cultural trends threaten to legislate believers out of business simply for holding traditional, biologically grounded views.



Pillar 4: Educational Freedom

The Principle:

Parents have the ultimate right—and responsibility—to educate their children virtuously.

The Application:

We must advocate for the decentralization of education back to families and local communities.

The Goal:

Freeing families from the nonsense of purely secular, state-run educational monopolies that bypass parental authority.



Finding the Natural Law Bridge



The Reality: We hold a radically different view of human nature compared to secular progressives (Biblical depravity vs. Human perfectionism).

The Bridge: Natural Law. God's moral truths are written into nature itself, limiting human behavior.

The Opportunity: You will find many non-Christians whose moral views align perfectly with the Ten Commandments and the dignity of humanity.

The Ultimate Goal: Speaking Truth in Love



Care for the Person

You aren't just trying to win a political argument; you are trying to share God's preserving and saving love.

Demand Nuance

Allow for nuance in the conversation, and confidently insist that others grant that same nuance to you.

Stay Focused

Good politics preserves society, but remember—only the Gospel saves souls.

Ready to Engage

Remember Your Role

Depoliticize the culture, focus on values, and carefully differentiate God's saving work from His preserving work.

Be Brave

The cultural landscape may be shifting, but God is still firmly on the throne.

Equip Yourself

Dive deeper into these frameworks and join the movement to keep politics in its proper, limited place.

Learn More

Visit lcrifreedom.org for resources, tools, and guidance.

