

Resources

Websites – these organisations often have newsletters and/or events too:

- ***Theos Think Tank***: www.theosthinktank.co.uk
“Theos stimulates the debate about the place of religion in society, challenging and changing ideas through research, commentary and events.” A very well-respected think tank with lots of good reports & podcasts.
- ***Christian Action, Research and Education (CARE)***: <https://care.org.uk>
“Our mission is to bring a uniquely Christian insight to the policies and laws that affect our lives.” Organisation engaged in Christian issues-based lobbying and policy work (with weekly newsletter); runs an annual graduate programme.
- ***Christians in Politics***: www.christiansinpolitics.org.uk
“Our mission is to inspire and encourage Christians to get involved in politics and public life.” Providing events, training, resources and networks.
- ***Cambridge Papers***: www.cambridgepapers.org
“Helping Christians engage with a complex and changing world”. Well-researched papers from a Christian perspective reflecting on issues of public life.
- ***Evangelical Alliance***: www.eauk.org/what-we-do/public-policy/
Part of the work of the EA includes: “Representing Christians and churches in the corridors of power across the UK”. Advocacy work with good range of briefings and blogs.
- ***Together for the Common Good***: <https://togetherforthecommongood.co.uk>
“Together for the Common Good (T4CG) is a national Christian charity dedicated to the renewal of the civic ecology by bringing covenantal thinking into church and civic life.” Ecumenical, thoughtful, provider of resources, training and a good newsletter linking to lots of other sources & thinkers.

There are plenty more websites, including ones for Christians on the Left, Christian Conservatives etc, but these are some I’ve found helpful. Their newsletters can be good ways to reflect on live issues from a Christian perspective.

Some book suggestions:

- ***David Koyzis, Political Visions and Illusions.***
Koyzis looks at five key political ideologies and explores them through a helpful Christian framework – not a ‘light’ read but worth it. Or find him on podcasts/Youtube etc.
- ***Nick Spencer and Jonathan Chaplin, God and Government.***
Addressing the question: What, according to Christian thought, is the proper function of government? Equipping you to think more deeply about this with lots of excellent contributors.
- ***James Mumford, Vexed.***
A good look at a number of key ethical political issues ‘beyond political tribes’ – trying to cut across the political divide. Christian perspective but not made explicit, relying on arguments that would make sense to a secular audience too; very readable.

Christian Principles for Politics - activity

- Thinking about the Christian story of Creation, what principles and beliefs will shape a Christian approach to politics?
- Thinking about other stories, proverbs and prophetic texts in the Old Testament, are there any lessons we can draw for political engagement?
- Thinking about Jesus, his teachings, life and death, what did he teach and show us in relation to politics, power and authorities?
- Thinking about the church, letters to the church, and God's kingdom (now and when Jesus returns), are there any other principles we can bring to bear on politics?

If you want to look at some specific passages of Scripture to help you, pick any of the following to reflect on:

- Genesis 1:26-28
- Isaiah 10:1-2
- 2 Samuel 12:7-10
- Daniel 1:17-20
- Proverbs 29:2
- Psalm 2
- John 18:33-37
- Acts 5:27-32
- Romans 13:1-10
- 1 Timothy 2:1-4
- Revelation 19:15-16