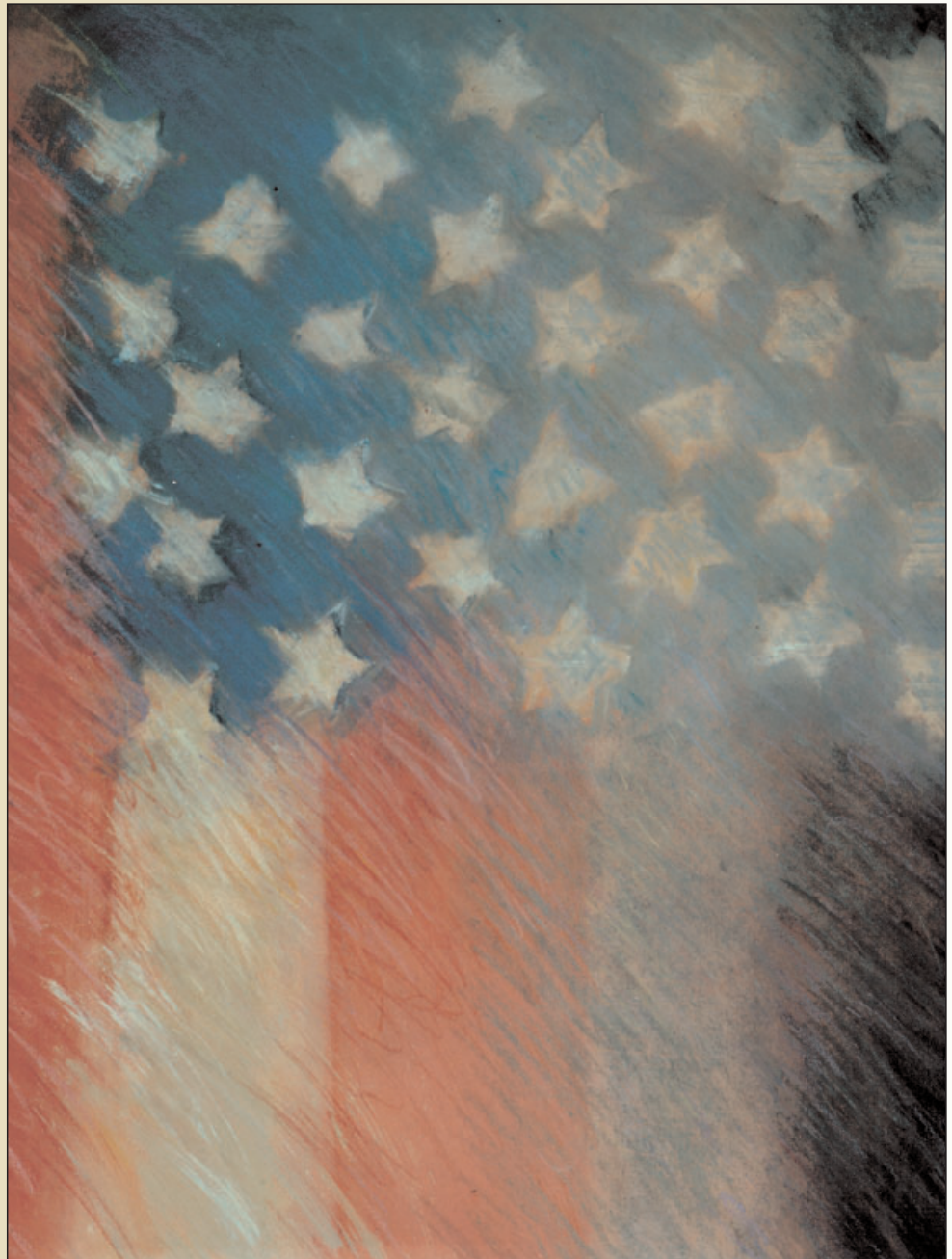


SOJOURNERS on the issues

A discussion guide from the editors of Sojourners magazine

This series is designed to spark discussion and thought about how to live out God's call for justice in our world. This guide includes four sessions, each with *Sojourners* articles, questions for discussion, and ideas for further study. We recommend printing out the guide for each person and allowing everyone time to read before the group meets. The resources here are a starting point for a further journey—where will the Spirit lead your group?



Christians and Politics

DISCUSSION GUIDE

SOJOURNERS

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SOJOURNERS on the issues

A discussion guide from the editors of Sojourners magazine

The fledgling Christian communities of the New Testament lived under the thumb of the Roman Empire. Early church leaders' lives and epistles portray the functions of the state as a partial good—when it is doing good. Where does a careful study of Romans 13—in which we are to distinguish between the “honor” due the government and the “fear” due to God—lead us in evaluating our social and political actions today? Combining Bible study, political analysis, and reflections on current events, this collection of Sojourners articles is part of a series designed to spark discussion, thought, and action about how to live out the call to serve God in our world.

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Christians and Politics

SESSION 1

Biblical Foundations

- “Paul’s View of the State (Part I),” by Robert A. Sabath
- “Biblical Politics,” by Jim Wallis

SESSION 2

Honoring the Government, Serving God

- “Paul’s View of the State (Part II),” by Robert A. Sabath
- “We Pledge Allegiance...,” by Gerald W. Schlabach

SESSION 3

Why Vote?

- “The Values of Voting,” by Marie Dennis
- “The Miracle of South Africa,” by Jim Wallis

SESSION 4

Religion in Public Office

- “The Courage of Conviction,”
an interview with Mark O. Hatfield
- “Dangerous Religion: George W. Bush’s Theology of Empire,”
by Jim Wallis