

TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS/KEY

Goal

Students recognize that government is not ultimate and begin questioning what its proper role actually is, preparing them to ground their answers in a clear standard.

Instructions

1. Put students in pairs or small groups.
2. **Part A:** Give students three minutes to rank their choices.
3. **Part B:** Give students five minutes to discuss their choices in their pairs/small groups.
4. **Part C:** As a class, complete this part.
5. **Part D:** Ask students together as a class these questions:
 - If government isn’t the most important thing, then what is its proper place?
 - What mistake do people make when they treat government as ultimate?

Wrap-Up/Final Direction (Teaser into Next Book Section):

“If we don’t start with a solid standard, our answers about government will be inconsistent or just opinion. So the next question is: **What does God’s Word actually say government is for?**” (This will be answered in our next book section.)

American Government & Politics: A Christian Worldview: “Ultimate Priority?”

PART A: Rank the Priorities.

Rank these from 1 (most important) to 5 (least important):

___ Fixing government

___ Personal success

___ Helping others

___ Following God

___ Eternal life

After your teacher instructs you, begin Part B. ↓

PART B: Defend your ranking.

With your partner or small group, compare rankings, choose one item you disagree on, and defend why you ranked it why you did. Each person must defend his position!

PART C: The Pressure Questions

- “Based on what?” – What standard are you using to decide what matters most in the above list of choices?
- How do you prove it?
- Why should anyone accept your ranking?

PART D: Two Follow-up Questions