

American Government & Politics: A Christian Worldview.
Government Tic-Tac-Toe (15-25 minutes)

TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS/KEY

Instructions

1. Divide the class into two teams.
2. Explain to students that they will take turns answering True/False and short answer questions, with correct answers earning an “X” or an “O” on a Tic-Tac-Toe grid you draw on the board.
3. Flip a coin or have one student on each team guess a number from 1 to 10 to see which team goes first.
4. Ask the first player on Team 1 (the team that won the right to go first) a True-False question, and award an “X” or “O” for a correct answer (the student chooses where to put the “X” or “O”). Incorrect answers get no “X” or “O,” of course!
5. Now ask the first player on Team 2 a question, and repeat the process. Give students turns in order.
6. First team to get three in a row wins! (Repeat the process until the questions run out, OR play 2-3 games, keeping an eye on the time.)

American Government & Politics: A Christian Worldview. Government Tic-Tac-Toe

1. What is the best standard for judging governments and laws? **(The Bible)**
2. Why are debates using endless historical quotations are often fruitless? **(People can always answer with opposing quotations)**
3. What should be the primary focus when studying government? **(Government's true Biblical purpose)**
4. Fill in the blank: Governments are inherently ____ because rulers are sinners too. **(flawed)**
5. Why should Christians avoid becoming consumed with politics? **(Their ultimate hope is in eternity, not perfect earthly government)**
6. What are the two core Biblical purposes of government? **(Punishing evildoers and providing justice)**
7. Fill in the blank from Ezekiel 45:9: "Remove violence and ____." **(spoil)**
8. Why is a distinction between sins and crimes important? **(Not every sin should be punished by government)**
9. Fill in the blank: Government should be a "terror" to _____. **(evil)**
10. What kind of "evil" is Romans 13 talking about? **(Actions that harm or violate others)**
11. Fill in the blank: Governors are sent "for the punishment of ____." **(evildoers)**
12. What percent extra did a thief have to pay in the example from Leviticus that shows Biblical justice involving restitution? **(20 percent)**
13. According to John Locke, what is something government should protect? **(Life, liberty, property)**
14. What is "legal plunder" according to Bastiat? **(Government taking from some to give to others)**
15. T/F — John Stuart Mill believed government should insist that people behave morally for their own good. **(False)**
16. Who used the phrase "wall of separation between Church and State"? **(Thomas Jefferson)**
17. T/F — Jesus warned that governments would sometimes persecute Christians. **(True)**
18. Fill in the blank: "We ought to obey God rather than ____." **(men)**
19. When should Christians disobey government? **(When it commands sin or forbids obedience to God)**
20. According to the chapter, why would a "Christian government" become absurd? **(Because many sins cannot or should not be punished by the state)**
21. T/F — Romans 12 commands governments to "overcome evil with good" instead of punishing crime. **(False)**
22. Who ultimately separated the functions of church and state? **(God)**
23. T/F — Roger Williams defended religious liberty. **(True)**
24. William Penn used the phrase "liberty of conscience," which means freedom of what? **(religion)**

25. Fill in the blank: Christians are to “be subject unto the higher ____.” (**powers**)
26. T/F — Nero was ruling Rome when Paul taught Christians to pray for rulers. (**True**)
27. Why is honoring rulers difficult? (**Many rulers are arrogant, immoral, or unpleasant**)
28. What does respectful obedience communicate to unbelievers? (**That Christians are focused on eternity, not earthly perfection**)
29. According to the text, what balance should Christians maintain regarding government? (**Respect lawful authority while obeying God first**)
30. Why do many government-school teachers avoid criticizing large government? (**Government pays their salaries through taxation**)
31. In studying American government, what does it mean to focus too much on the “what” instead of the “why”? (**Memorizing facts without understanding government’s purpose**)
32. What phrase describes Christians’ citizenship in Philippians 3:20? (**“Our conversation [citizenship] is in heaven”**)
33. According to Jeremiah 22:3, whom should rulers deliver from oppressors? (**The spoiled/robbed**)
34. Fill in the blank: Rulers are to execute “judgment and ____.” (**justice**)
35. T/F — Government punishment should create fear in criminals. (**True**)
36. What is the other word for “evil” in Romans 13 that the Bible says governments are to punish? (**harm**)
37. Why are widows and orphans specifically mentioned as those that government should protect? (**They are more vulnerable to oppression**)
38. What does Mill mean by “his own good...is not sufficient warrant”? (**Government should not force people for their own supposed benefit**)
39. Fill in the blank: Jefferson believed government’s legitimate powers reach actions, not _____. (**opinions**)
40. T/F — Connecticut once had an official state religion. (**True**)
41. What mistaken belief did some Puritans hold about government officials? (**That magistrates should enforce religion and punish heresy**)