

Dan's Devotion: Politics

Election time. It is an exciting time for many and for some it can get to be too much and they are just ready for it to be all over. I think I am a mixture of both. It is exciting and interesting, but it's about now that I start to feel like I am on politics overload and I start to shut things out. No matter if you view this process in a positive or negative light, this is the process that we have here in America today and we need to make the best of it.

As we look to the state and national elections there are a lot of different criteria to look at. Primarily we tend to focus on what the candidates believe on various issues and I agree that this is a very important.

As followers of Christ though, I think there might be a key question to ask that will filter down into everything else. Are you ready for the million dollar question? Here it is: **What candidate in each election is a man or woman after God's own heart?**

David in the Bible was referred to as a man after God's own heart. In Acts 13:22 it refers back to the Old Testament and it says, "*After removing Saul, he(God) made David their king. He testified concerning him: I have found David son of Jesse a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do.*"

So, what was it about David that made him so special? Was he perfect? No, not even close. He screwed up in some pretty major ways. So, how could he possibly be a man after God's own heart?

Here are some traits that I see in David that I think made him fit this lofty title:

- 1) He was humble.
- 2) He treated people well.
- 3) He admitted his mistakes.
- 4) If it was the right thing to do, he didn't care what other people thought.
- 5) He was passionate about God.
- 6) He loved God with all of his heart.
- 7) He sought to do what God would want him to do.
- 8) People respected him.

And guess what? These are all traits that would make for great leaders of our country as well. So, I would encourage you to be praying about the candidates that you are getting ready to vote for in light of these traits. Who most embodies these characteristics that made David a "*man after God's own heart?*"

There you have it, Dan's political dialogue for election 2008.

Thank you God for blessing America in so many ways!

Dan Toney