



**Speaker:** Pastor Matt Magee

**Series:** Christians in the Public Square

**Sermon Title:** Standing for Christ in the Public Square

**Scripture:** [Matthew 5:13-16](#); [Matthew 28:18-20](#)

**MAIN IDEA:** As wholehearted followers of Christ, we are duty-bound to live, speak, and stand for Christ in the public square.

#### **OUTLINE:**

1. Speak, live, and stand for Christ to rein in the evils of society. (Matthew 5:13-14).
2. Speak, live, and stand for Christ to let your light shine before others (Matthew 5:15-16).
3. Jesus *has* all authority; people are *in* authority only to the degree that it has been delegated to them by God and his representatives (Matthew 28:18-20).

#### **FREE RESOURCES:**

1. Owen Strachan, *Voting and the Church: Why Christians Engage the Public Square* (<https://www.drjamesdobson.org/voting-and-the-church-ebook>).
2. Rick Thomas, *Politics and Culture* (<https://lifeovercoffee.com/product/politics-and-culture/>).
3. Christians Engaged, *Biblical Roadmap to the Party Platforms: A non-partisan reference guide for the 2024 General Elections* (<https://christiansengaged.org/platform-roadmap>).

#### **DISCUSSION GUIDE**

1. Re-read the main passages for this sermon. In what ways does your living as salt and light flow directly from your personal, daily interaction with the Lord?
2. What is the relationship between your Christian faith and engagement in the public square?
3. In what ways are you active in the public square? What are some ways you could become active?
4. Are you typically active or inactive in general elections?
5. How could you use your gifts, skills, and talents to make life easier for others from a political perspective? Consider infants in the womb, the elderly, or the freedom to exercise our religion.

6. Is it right for you to keep silent if the government tells you that you cannot teach your children about Jesus?
7. Describe how consistent Christian living reins in the evils of society?
8. Discuss how speaking, living, and standing for Christ gives you a unique opportunity to let your light shine before all men.
9. What is the ultimate goal of "letting your light shine?" (See Matthew 5:16b.)
10. In what ways can you practice the Great Commission in your community?