

Jesus & Politics

Wisdomfest 2021

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WINSOME
CONVICTION

DISAGREEING WITHOUT
DIVIDING THE CHURCH



How do we move forward together?

“I intend always to remind you of these qualities, though you know them and are established in the truth that you have. I think it right, as long as I am in this body, to stir you up by way of reminder ...

“And I will make every effort so that after my departure you may be able at any time to recall these things.”

2 Peter 1:12-15

“Love **believes all things.**”

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believes all things = choosing to believe

Widening the Circle

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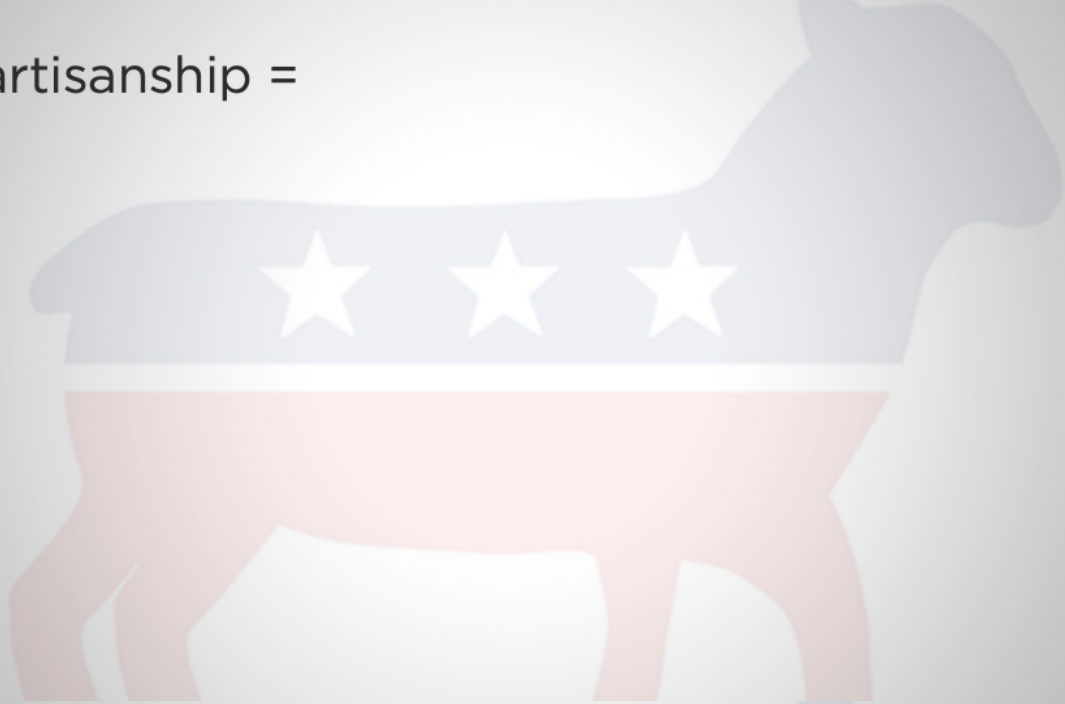
And the body can’t say to any part, “**I don’t need you.**”

“I appeal to you, brothers ... for it has been reported to me by Chloe’s people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers.

“What I mean is that each one of you says, ‘I follow Paul,’ or ‘I follow Apollos,’ or ‘I follow Cephas,’ or ‘I follow Christ.’”

1 Corinthians 1:11-12

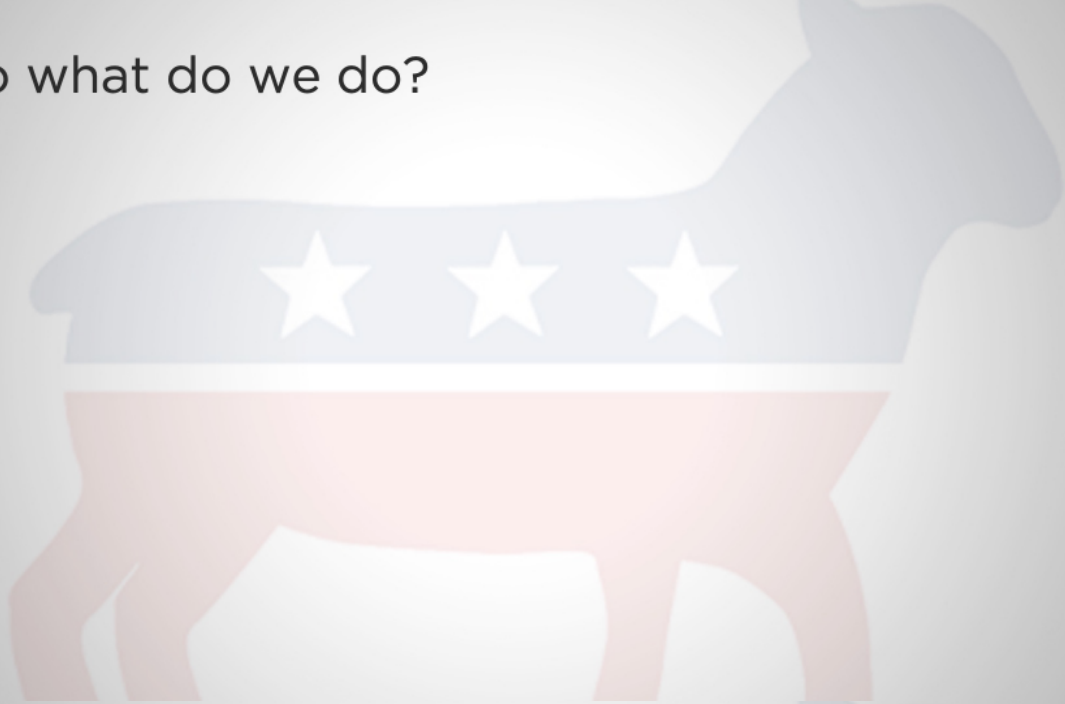
partisanship =



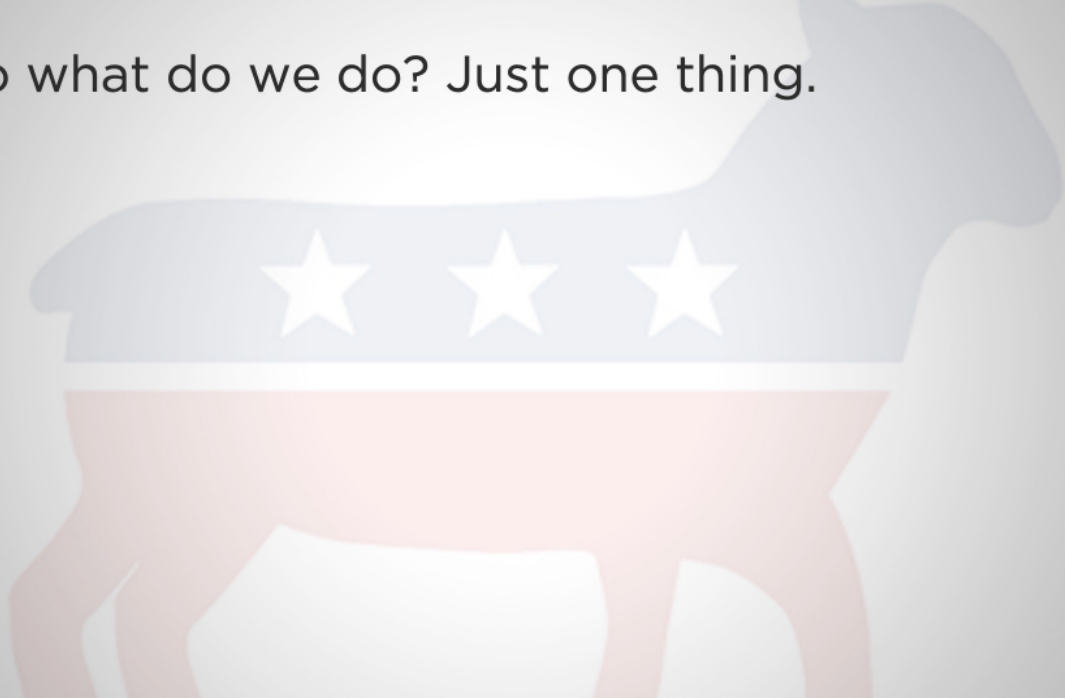
partisanship = party allegiance;
loyalty above loyalty
to my Christian family



So what do we do?



So what do we do? Just one thing.



“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”


John 13:34-35

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you ... These things I command you, so that you will love one another.”


John 15:12, 17

“Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood.
Fear God. Honor the emperor.”

1 Peter 2:17



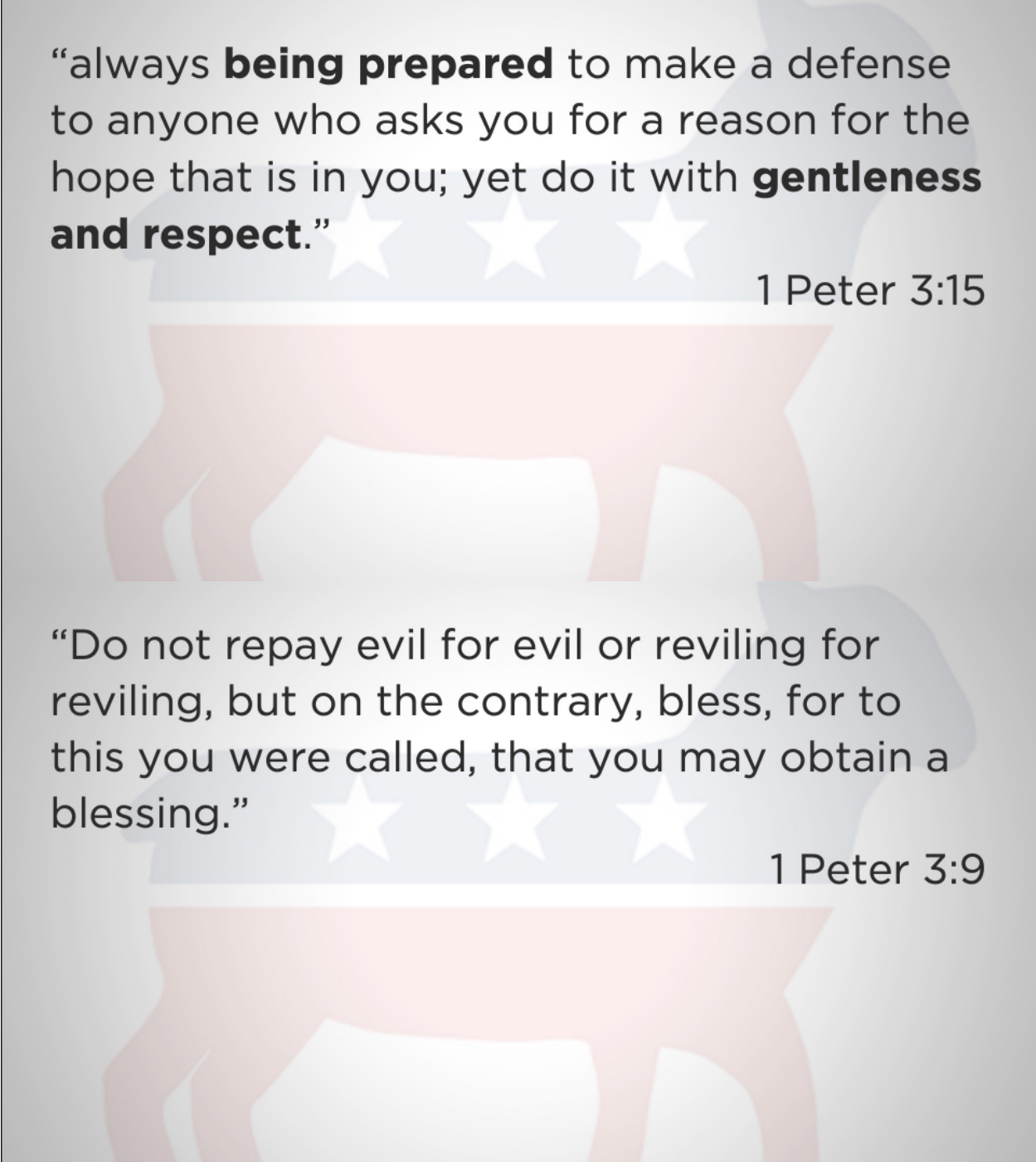
Refusing to dishonor
the one with whom I **disagree**



“Everybody does not prioritize major policies in the same way. Now they definitely should care. They definitely shouldn’t add to the iniquity.”

“But people can be faithful and have different priorities than you do. That’s a hard truth that we don’t like to accept.”

Christian Leader

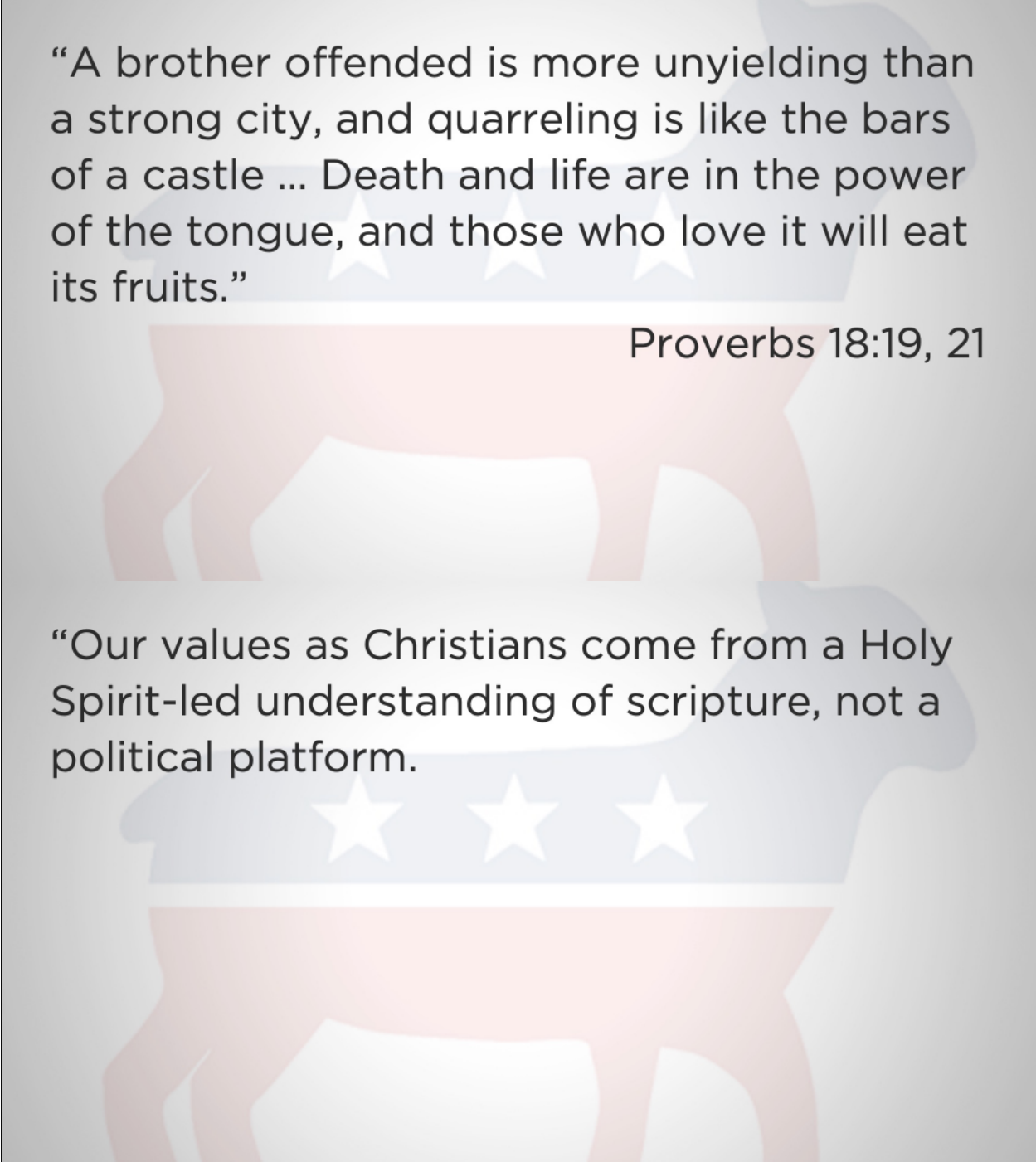


“always **being prepared** to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with **gentleness and respect.**”

1 Peter 3:15

“Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing.”

1 Peter 3:9



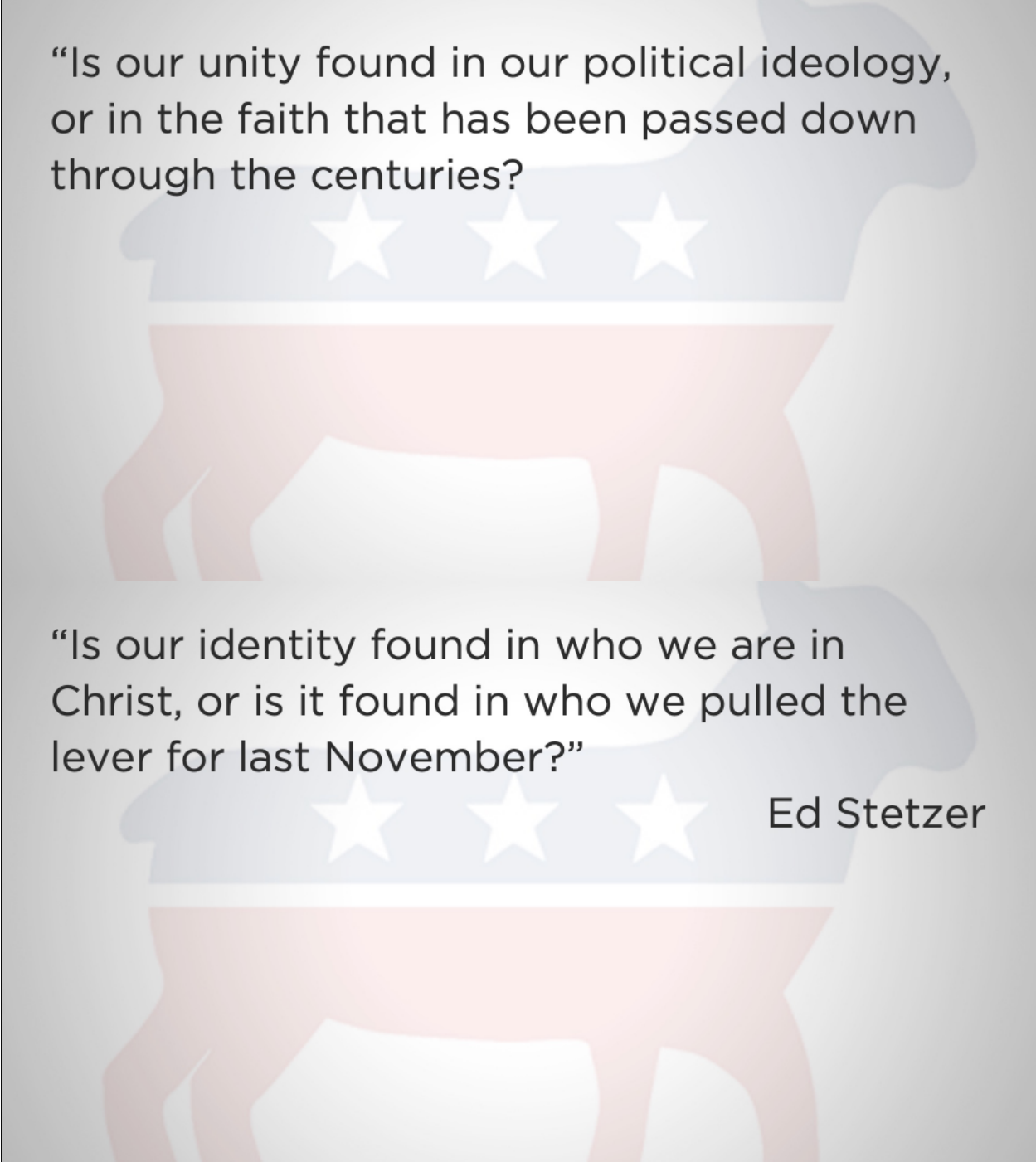
“A brother offended is more unyielding than a strong city, and quarreling is like the bars of a castle ... Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits.”

Proverbs 18:19, 21

“Our values as Christians come from a Holy Spirit-led understanding of scripture, not a political platform.”

“Our leader is Christ, not an elected official.
Our family is the Church, not a political
party.

“We can easily agree with this while reading
a blog, but are we living the principle out in
the Church and public spaces?



“Is our unity found in our political ideology,
or in the faith that has been passed down
through the centuries?”

“Is our identity found in who we are in
Christ, or is it found in who we pulled the
lever for last November?”

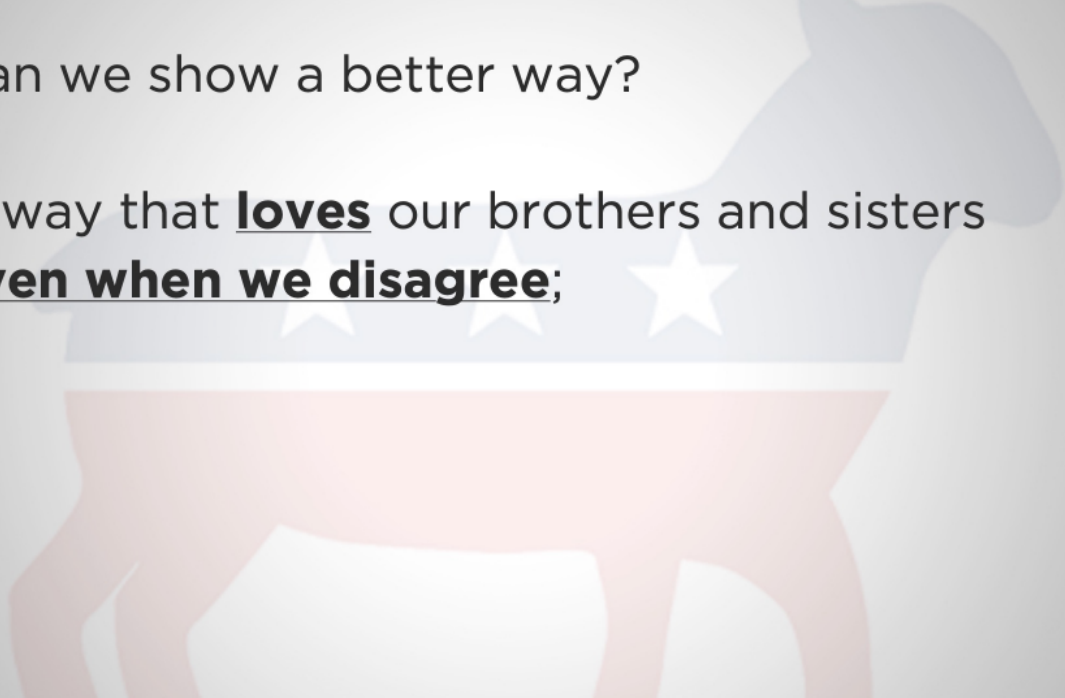
Ed Stetzer

Can we show a better way?



Can we show a better way?

A way that **loves** our brothers and sisters
even when we disagree;



Can we show a better way?

A way that **loves** our brothers and sisters
even when we disagree;

a way that **believes** the best about them
even when they're wrong.