

# TESTIGOS CRISTIANOS DE JEHOVÁ

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SE October 5, 2017

TO ALL BODIES OF ELDERS

Ref.: Congregation Needs

Dear Brothers:

We are writing about the situation that has come up in many places due to the existing political differences. These differences have been a source of stress and concern for many people. We pray that the brothers will be able to retain the “peace of God” and keep a neutral position, in harmony with the Bible principles.—Philippians 4:6, 7.

The Bible foretold that in the last days there would be “critical times, hard to deal with” because, among other things, men would not be “open to any agreement” (2 Timothy 3:1-5.) How grateful we are to Jehovah for being part of his people! We are a group of millions of people united by the bond of love (Colossians 3:14.) This unity is made possible because, in harmony with the Bible teachings, we maintain a neutral stand concerning this world’s divisive political issues.—John 17:14, 16.

In order to help our brothers deal with this complex situation in harmony with Bible principles, we wish to ask you to dedicate 5 minutes in the part “congregation needs” of the week of October 16, 2017 to review the following ideas and their application. The remaining time can be used to analyze the information suggested for that week in the *Life and Ministry Meeting Workbook*. Please select a capable elder who is able convey the information in a clear way but, at the same time, in reasonable and peaceful way, avoiding a dogmatic or condemnatory presentation. He can mention the articles referred below so that the brothers can write them down.

## OUTLINE:

- 1) Christians do not participate in this world’s political conflicts. Despite the good intentions of any ruler or political party, Christians know that the Kingdom of God is the only government capable of bringing about the solution to all difficulties and ensuring justice for all (Matthew 6:9.) Our neutral stand maintains the congregation united (1 Corinthians 1:0-13; w15 15/07 page 23, p. 5-10).
- 2) We must be ready and make sure that our children are ready to maintain neutrality. Our background can have a profound impact on how we view different countries, regions or languages. None of us Christians would want to consider our own country, region, language or race superior to others (Romans 12:2; w15 15/07 page 24, p. 11-18.)
- 3) We are neutral not only in word and action but also in our inner self. We must be cautious with our conversations, avoiding praising or criticizing the ideas of a political party or political leader. The media exerts a powerful influence and many of the news are presented to promote one opinion or side (w16 04 page 29, p. 8-13.) We are all equal before Jehovah.—(Rom. 10:12.
- 4) If someone asks us for our opinion. We can direct him to the our web site JW.org/ “About Us” – “Frequently Asked Questions” – “Why Do Jehovah’s Witnesses Maintain Political Neutrality?”

We are happy and grateful to be part of this beautiful brotherhood made up of people from “all nations”. We look forward to the time when all humankind, united under one and only government will praise our Creator Jehovah.—Revelation 4:11; 7:9.

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October 5, 2017

Page 2

Please be assured of our warm Christian love.

Your brothers,

*Testigos Cristianos de Jehová*

c. c. Circuit overseers