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**Not Beyond Reach
Small Group Study**

Spiritual Questions to Help Reframe Political Hot Topics

Conversations about politics and social justice are often highly contentious, leading to division and hostility. It seems that we have to choose between silence or an angry debate. However, instead of avoiding these topics or getting angry, we should see them as incredible opportunities to engage in spiritual conversations.

Here is a list of sample questions that help reframe a political conversation into a spiritual conversation:

- Why do you think so much pain, evil, and suffering exist in the world? What is the root cause of all of it?
- How do you think selfishness, greed, and apathy contribute to injustice in the world, and what kind of transformation is needed to address these issues?

- What motivates people to fight against injustice? Why do people sacrifice themselves for the sake of others?
- In a “survival of the fittest” worldview, why should we care about the needs of those less fortunate? Wouldn’t it make more sense for the strong to dominate the weak?
- How do you reconcile the concept of self-sacrifice with a worldview that emphasizes individual success and personal gain?
- Historically, most hospitals, orphanages, and humanitarian relief organizations like the Red Cross and the Salvation Army were started by Christians who saw it as an outworking of their faith. What do you make of that?
- Where do you think the concept of equality and human dignity originates?
- If human worth is determined by societal constructs rather than being “endowed by our Creator,” what is the basis for asserting that all people are inherently equal?
- How can we argue against injustice and oppression on moral grounds if morality is seen as subjective and culturally relative? By what moral standard can we enforce justice in the face of discrimination?
- Can the mistreatment of women in countries like Iran or Afghanistan be justified on cultural grounds, or is there a universal standard by which cultures should be judged?

- There was a time when most people did not believe that slavery was morally wrong. How do you explain that? Are there things, like racism, that are always wrong, regardless of cultural or historical context? If so, why? How do we justify that?
- What gives you hope for the future?



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