

Honoring those called to SERVE... veterans and politicians

*"If a man's gift is serving, let him serve."
Romans 12:7*

Dear Friends,

This week our entire nation is focused on those who serve. On Tuesday we go to the polls to elect individuals to serve in all levels of government. These folks are politicians. On Friday, November 11, we pause to offer prayers of gratitude for those who have served our nation in uniform. Many of them gave their lives that we might enjoy freedom, so we honor them on Veterans Day.

Why is a 'preacher' talking about veterans and politicians when he has never served in either position? The answer lies with John Calvin, the father of the Presbyterian Church. In his "Institutes of the Christian Religion," Calvin referred to a special vocation as being the most sacred, and no, it wasn't a call to ministry. Calvin wrote: "wherefore no (man) can doubt that this vocation or calling is, in the sight of God, not only sacred and lawful, and by far the most honorable, of all stations in life." Calvin said the civil magistrate was to be most honored.

Calvin placed high regard for those who served the country. Today in America politicians are not always held in high esteem, and I am not sure the younger generations living in America have the same regard for the military as members of the Greatest Generation. We reflect on our past in the present to guide us in the future. So this week, in the present, we do our duty as citizens and vote on Tuesday and as Christians and good Presbyterians, we offer prayers of gratitude for our veterans on Friday.

My prayer is that each of us will find a special way to SERVE in this great nation in which we live! God Bless America!

It is a joy to serve as your pastor.

Blessings,
Mike