

## Naomi Leremore

Location: Nairobi, KENYA

Mission: Christian education



## A Flip Chart and Markers...

Armed with these simple tools, the Theological Education by Extension (TEE) writing team met for a day long, ideas-generating session. The task was to explore various avenues for Bible study and discussion under the theme of "Christians and Politics". As the ideas flowed, the walls were decorated with numerous sheets of paper.

The next step was to organise the ideas into six topic areas. These will eventually become six separate weeks of study in a guide book for use by fellowship groups within the Church. Here are the working titles for each section: -

- **Understanding politics** 1)
- The role of the citizen 2)
- Politics and money 3)
- 4) Politics and unity
- Politics and moral issues 5)
- Politics and the Church 6)

Each writer was given the assignment of covering one topic area and finding Bible stories to help shed light on it. Once you start looking for biblical examples of people impacting the political landscape of their day, it's surprising the abundance of material that's available to choose from! A few examples would be:

Acts 16 - Paul and Silas making use of their status as Roman citizens.

Judges 4 - Deborah and Jael playing crucial roles in defeating the Canaanites.

Exodus 18 - Jethro advising Moses to create a governance

Genesis 26 - Isaac's peaceful handling of the dispute with the Gerar shepherds.



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In the scheduled TEE meetings this month, we shall put together the historical and cultural background notes, helping place each scene within its unique context. And finally, we shall come to the crafting of the questions. Our hope is that these will generate deep and engaging conversations as well as some spirited, lively debates. We want to challenge the apathetic electorate as well as those rooted in tribal bias, so that all may shift their focus towards one that is more God-honouring.



The picture is a sample of what the graphics cover for the Bible study guide may look like.

"There is no government anywhere that God has not placed in power." Romans 13:1b (TLB)

## Prayer points

- Pray for the TEE writing team as we prepare this, our first Bible study guide for fellowship groups within the church. Ask that it will be used to awaken the Church and her members to the vital role they play.
- Give thanks for the interest in this material and pray for the publishing and distribution to be done with speed and wisdom.
- Remember the political climate within the country, praying for those generating hate speech and conflict to be apprehended.
- Pray that this election season will not be marred by bribery, rigging, intimidation of voters or violence.
- Ask that the voice of the marginalised will be heard.

