



It is our desire to equip each generation to:  
Celebrate the King, Become like Christ, and Connect the Lost

# CHINESE BAPTIST CHURCH

900 BROGDEN RD. HOUSTON, TX 77024

CBCHOUSTON.ORG

713.461.0963

Oct 20, 2024



**Why Christians must Engage in  
Politics and Elections?**

**Romans 13:1-7**

Oct 20, 2024

# Welcome to CBC

We are excited for you to join us in worship today. Our prayer is that through the singing of gospel truths, hearing the scriptures proclaimed, and being around the saints, you will leave edified and equipped to live on mission with God for His glory.

Preparation	Romans 11:33-36 (CSB)
Welcome	Joshua Lee
Adoration	Hosanna (Praise is Rising) Build My Life Holy Holy Holy
Prayer	Irene Chen
Scripture Reading	Romans 13:1-7 (CSB) Davy Chin
Proclamation	Why Christians must Engage in Politics and Elections? Pastor Oleg Xu
Response	Come Unto Jesus
Offertory Prayer	Davy Chin
Announcements	Mo Wong
Benediction	Pastor Oleg Xu

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## **Romans 13:1-7 (CSB)**

**1** Let everyone submit to the governing authorities, since there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are instituted by God. **2** So then, the one who resists the authority is opposing God's command, and those who oppose it will bring judgment on themselves. **3** For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Do you want to be unafraid of the one in authority? Do what is good, and you will have its approval. **4** For it is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, because it does not carry the sword for no reason. For it is God's servant, an avenger that brings wrath on the one who does wrong. **5** Therefore, you must submit, not only because of wrath but also because of your conscience. **6** And for this reason you pay taxes, since the authorities are God's servants, continually attending to these tasks. **7** Pay your obligations to everyone: taxes to those you owe taxes, tolls to those you owe tolls, respect to those you owe respect, and honor to those you owe honor.

### **Notes**

#### **Outline:**

1. God created the government (v.1)
2. God created government for our good (v.3)
3. Government officials are ministers of God (v.4)
4. Law matters (1 Peter 2:13-14)

**13** Submit to every human authority because of the Lord, whether to the emperor as the supreme authority **14** or to governors as those sent out by him to punish those who do what is evil and to praise those who do what is good.

#### **Application:**

1. Choose carefully
2. Choose prayerfully
3. Pray for those in authority
4. Your vote is a gift from God to be stewarded

# Pastor's Word by Pastor Donald Gardner

## "Different Paths for Different People"

Recently, I attended the anniversary of Emmanuel Chinese Baptist Church in Overland Park, Kansas. We had over 250 present in the worship services on that day and the atmosphere was joyous. As the church's founding pastor, beginning back some 40 years ago, I was greatly touched to see how God has grown His family. At the same time, I couldn't help but wonder where many of my old friends had gone? Asking others, I was told that some had passed on, some had moved away, some had joined other churches, and some had merely "dropped out" of sight! Some of these decisions are obviously quite understandable but, at the same time, there are questions that remain when some persons merely disappear! Sometimes, we know where and why people walk away from a church but I've never known a pastor who wasn't concerned or curious when he looked around to find someone missing that he is used to seeing.

I left Emmanuel Chinese in 1988 and I rejoice at their continued service to the Father. I am now at Chinese Baptist of Houston and am thrilled to be serving with this part of God's greater family. Yet, I have met numerous persons who have experienced things that disappointed or frustrated them enough that they left CBC for a time before returning. I can't help but remember the Parable of the Prodigal Son. In that parable, the Father continued to love his loyal son who had patiently worked and served at home. Yet, he revealed his continued love toward his more "independent son" who had run away to follow his own path. The point is that God desires us to serve Him regardless of the path we take. This is hard for the "faithful son" to understand as he had been so dependable with his life toward his father. I, like that father, can well understand the feeling he must have had toward his more "wayward son!" Yet, God the Father challenged a type of love and forgiveness that is beyond what we might see as common or amazing. One thing that I see in the prodigal son's father is a willingness to welcome home a son that had taken the road less traveled. May we all respect others who travel a path unlike our own even as we pray that they return to serve with us at CBC!

### Announcements

- **Operation Christmas Child 2024 project will start soon.** Please pick up the shoeboxes, adhesive labels, and instructions for how to fill up your box(es) starting today, **Oct. 20** at the OCC table in the main foyer. Completed shoeboxes may be dropped off to the designated area in the foyer anytime before the deadline on **Sunday, Nov. 24th**. For details, contact [myra.ykwan@gmail.com](mailto:myra.ykwan@gmail.com). Remember each shoe box only takes one label.
- **Fall Holiday Gospel Outreach** - There will be a **Pumpkin Festival** on **Saturday, Oct 26, 2024** at 9:30 am at the Chinese Christian Church, located at 10251 West Bellfort Chase Dr, Houston, TX 77031. There will be a training session, team practice, lunch, and a send off to nearby SW area apartments and parks. For details, please email Pastor Oleg at [pastoroleg@cbchouston.org](mailto:pastoroleg@cbchouston.org).
- **Youth Leadership and Parents Meeting with a Ministerial Staff Panel Discussion** on Sunday, Oct 27, 2024 from 1 pm to 2 pm in the Chapel
- **Ice Cream Social Event** for new CBC members and those who are interested in joining CBC will be on Sunday, Oct 27 from 1:15 pm to 2:15 pm in the Foyer (Welcome Center). Please RSVP by Thursday, Oct 24 to the CBC Office or email [ashleyl@cbchouston.org](mailto:ashleyl@cbchouston.org).
- **The CBC Chinese School will have a Fire Truck Visit Day on Sunday, Oct 27, 2024** from 1:30 pm to 3:45 pm. Please take note that the front row parking area in front of the nursery doors will be blocked off as reserved parking for the Fire Truck Parking spot.

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