



How to Thrive in a Non-Christian Culture

Sermon Notes | 09.10.2017

Culture is the sum of attitudes, customs, and beliefs that distinguishes one group of people from another.

Understanding how to thrive as a Bible-believing Christian within an ever-changing, anti-Biblical culture requires us to first understand our own built in blind spots, prejudices and wrongful assumptions.

Binocular vision: The ability to maintain visual focus on an object with both eyes, creating a single visual image.

We each view the world from our personal viewpoint – our ‘worldview’.

If we as Christians are to interact with other cultures in a Christ-like manner, we must learn to view cultures using our spiritual binocular vision...or a Christ-like worldview.

Jesus' Binocular Vision

Dominant Eye: Recognizing others as God sees them.

Second Eye: Recognizing situations as God sees them.

Common Christian Mistakes caused by Cultural Confusion

1. Christians tend to “Draw the Line”. “Ok, you’ve stepped over the line; we’re done here.”

Learn to identify differing cultural ideas by name, i.e. learn to differentiate between ideas and the people who express differing or non-Christian worldviews.

2. Christians tend to believe we are here to win the culture over.

The trouble with that mindset or worldview is that we aren’t here to win the culture (remember culture is simply an idea of what is true), we want to win them to the real Truth of Jesus Christ’s culture

When face to face with unbiblical ideas –

1. Perceive the people NOT as offensive people...but as God-loved people with wrong ideas.
2. Perceive the situation NOT as an offensive situation; but as an opportunity to be an influencer for Christ.

There’s a better first question with which to approach culture than “Where do we draw the line?” or “Have we lost?” The better question is “What is our salvation for?”

Stonestreet, John; Kunkle, Brett. A Practical Guide to Culture: Helping the Next Generation Navigate Today's World (Kindle Locations 588-589). David C. Cook. Kindle Edition.

Have you ever really asked yourself – why am I here?

The answer for every believer is –

I’m here as a part of God’s bigger story. I’m not the star of this movie...it’s not my movie...it’s God’s movie...I’m just a role player within His Story. I’m part of a bigger story.



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