

Jesus & Politics: Grace & Truth

Sermon Notes April 21st, 2024

What this is:

- A guide to finding peace in this divisive time.
- A call to seek God's kingdom above all else
- A reminder that speaking the truth in love is the goal, and one without the other does not lead to discipleship.

What this isn't:

- A guide for where to place your vote.
- An opinion piece on specific political issues.
- A recommendation to avoid engaging in politics altogether.

2 Timothy 2:22-26 NIV

22 Flee the evil desires of youth and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart. 23 Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels. 24 And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful.

Don't:

- Pursue evil desires of youth.
- Have foolish and stupid arguments.
- Be quarrelsome.
- Be resentful.

Do:

- Pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace, and have a pure heart.
- Be kind to everyone.
- Able to teach.

2 Timothy 2:25-26

25 Opponents must be **gently instructed**, in the hope that **God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, 26 and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.**

John 1:14 NIV

14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

You must be a disciple of Jesus who _____ in the journey with others with _____ & _____.

2 Timothy 2:25-26

25 Opponents must be **gently instructed**, in the hope that **God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, 26 and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.**

You must allow God to lead them to _____.

2 Timothy 2:25-26

25 Opponents must be **gently instructed**, in the hope that **God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, 26 and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.**

You must understand that the war is not with _____.

Take Home: (adapted from Sheila Heen)

Honoring people with grace...

- Be willing to change your _____ from "the declarative of "Obviously I'm right" to asking "Why do we see this situation so differently"
- Be willing to ask the _____, "Help me understand..."
- Listening to/understanding their side of the _____.
 - Who's right?
 - Who's fault is this?
 - What is motivating you & why are you acting this way?
- Listening to the feelings and acknowledging those _____.

Honoring people with truth...

- Listening to the _____.
- Be aware of your bias to defend things you are protective of: _____ & _____.
- Taking _____ of your contribution to the situation.
- Pointing people to the Word of God and the heart's intention of _____.

"When listening to a conversation you can listen for feelings or listen for facts. Listening for both will give you a more complete conversation." -Sheila Heen