

Discussion Guide

Series: Polarized wk1 Grace-filled Communicators

August 4, 2024



Big Idea

Even when a conversation isn't about the Gospel, it's still about the Gospel.



Icebreaker

Can you believe it?!?!?! IT'S ERIE COUNTY FAIR SEASON! Do you enjoy attending the fair & why or why not? What is your favorite part of the fair?



Discussion Questions

1. Look up the definition of the word *polarized*. What do you think are the top 2 or 3 topics that polarize people today? How does this impact you, personally?
2. The following observational statement was made in the sermon: *"As a result of the conversations we have, we are either closer to one another or farther apart."* What are your thoughts of this statement (agree or disagree)? Have you ever thought about the gravity of each of your conversations in consideration of this statement? If this was something you intentionally considered each time that you entered a conversation, would it impact the way you engaged in that conversation & if so, how?
3. Read 2 Corinthians 5:16-20. Jesus, the great reconciler, gives you the ministry of reconciliation. What does that mean to you personally? How should, or does, it impact how you live?
4. *"Even when a conversation isn't about the Gospel, it's still about the Gospel."* What does this statement mean to you? What was a "gospel" in Rome? Was referring to Jesus' message/purpose as "gospel" unique to Him? What makes His message & purpose "gospel" (and the best one, at that)?
5. Read Colossians 4:2-6. How does this passage direct us in order to engage in every conversation that isn't about the Gospel, still being about the Gospel? What are some specific directives given in this passage? How do they (these directives) fuel us in our administering of the message of reconciliation?
6. Of the various directives found in Colossians 4:2-7, which is either the most difficult for you to implement or navigate and why? What is a way in which you could work to overcome such difficulties in navigation?
7. Re-read Colossians 4:6. What does a conversation that is *full of grace, yet seasoned with salt* look like? How do you practically have one? Why is it hard to have "grace-filled" conversations if you are not a "grace-filled" person? What must we understand, or do, to be a "grace-filled" person? How are you, honestly, at living out Colossians 4:6?



Concluding Question

There was a Conversation Starter format shared with us this Sunday in the sermon and through a business card that we could pick up. What were the steps in it? What did you think of it? Will you implement it, and if so when & how?



Prayer

Spend some time praying through the top 2 or 3 polarizing topics in our world today. Specifically ask God to help us to lead by example in living out Colossians 4:2-6.