

Discussion Guide  
*Series: Polarized wk4 Attitude of Christ*  
August 25, 2024



Big Idea

We do the hard work of reconciliation because Jesus did it for us first.



Icebreaker

Back to school is just around the corner! Think back to being a primary & secondary (pre-college) aged student...as the start of the school year approached, what emotions did you experience often & why?



Discussion Questions

1. Read 2 Corinthians 5:16-21. This was the launching verse for us with this series, “Polarized”. As a group discuss this verse using the S.O.A.P. Method, where “S” stands for scripture, “O” stands for observations, “A” stands for application, and “P” stands for prayer. So, what observations do you have of this verse? What are some possible applications of this verse? Is there an application you are feeling led to regarding it, and what will you do about it (what’s your next step)? Say a quick prayer over the pursuit of these applications.
2. Read Philippians 1:3-6 (NLT). In these verses, what are the specific ways Paul encourages us as his readers? Why is this encouragement impactful as we consider living as faithful and obedient Christians amid a polarized culture? How does his encouragement help us as we embark upon this challenge?
3. Read Philippians 2:1 (NLT). Share about any encouragement, comfort, fellowship, and/or tenderness/compassion of the heart you are, or have, experienced by being in a relationship with Jesus Christ? Why is it important to reflect upon and remember such things as we consider being messengers and ministers of reconciliation with others?
4. Read Philippians 2:2-4 (NLT). Reflecting upon & remembering the encouragement, comfort, etc. we have received from being in a relationship with Jesus Christ is not all that is asked of us. What is God, through Paul, also asking of us as seen in verse 2 of this reading? According to all these verses, by what means are we to ‘agree wholeheartedly, love, and work together’ with one another? What is a means by which this is to happen that you struggle with & why?
5. Read Philippians 2:5-8 (NLT). Why do these verses act as healthy conviction to us that we should be willing to do the hard work of reconciliation? Discuss some things, along with the implication of these things, that Christ gave up for us to be offered reconciliation with God.
6. Re-read Philippians 1:3-6 (NLT) & read Philippians 2:13 (NLT). As we willingly pursue reconciliation with and amongst others in obedience to God and His calling of us, who is ultimately doing the work? Why is that important to know and trust?



Concluding Question

At the conclusion of the sermon, we discussed 3 words...BECOME, BELONG, AND BELIEVE. As Christians we sometimes wrongly expect people to 1<sup>st</sup> BECOME like us, so that they can BELONG with us (hang out with us with an emphasis on our comfort) so we can eventually get them to BELIEVE (in Christ) like us. What order, however, did the sermon encourage us to consider putting these words in & why? Thoughts on that?



Prayer

Pray for the upcoming school year: safety, God’s presence in the school through Jesus’ disciples, etc.. Also, pray for the many Fall Ministries (including the various retreats) that will be kicking off soon at Revive.