

polarizing

/poh-luh-rye-zing/

SERMON DISCUSSION

The Winning Side

Quotable Moments:

- Difference is inevitable. Division is a choice.
- Jesus was the King who came to reverse the order of things.

Scripture: Galatians 3:28

Key Things You Heard:

- Is there a notable difference between Republican/Democrat Jesus followers and Republican/Democrat non-Jesus followers?
- Jesus teaches very clearly that our influence on the world is directly tied to the unity we display.
- It's easier to vilify a group than an individual.
- Are you willing to evaluate your politics through the filter of our faith instead of creating a version of faith that supports your politics?
- We cannot be first and foremost political party people. We must be Jesus-minded Kingdom people.
- When we try to edit Jesus to fit a political platform, we rob the world of the only message that can change the world.

Pray: Jesus, thank you for the church, the representation of Jesus in this world. I confess my sin of helping to create disunity rather than unity. Help us to follow the example of early Christ-followers who lived out culturally disruptive unity. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Moving Forward:

- Repent of any sin of disunity in your life.
- Commit to disagree politically, love unconditionally, and pray for unity.
- Read *Until Unity* by Francis Chan
- Read *Not In It To Win It* by Andy Stanley
- Re-watch and/or share the sermon with a friend. Go to rivertown.cc or the RCC App.

Questions for Group Discussion:

First Minutes: The early church engaged in "culturally disruptive unity". What do you think of when you hear this phrase? What is important about each of those words?

- The early church was described as "Classes of people whose circles rarely overlapped, who came together regularly and voluntarily to worship their King, the crucified and risen Jesus." What was inspiring about this in the first century?
- Why is it easier to vilify a group than an individual?
- Paul asked "Are you willing to evaluate your politics through the filter of our faith instead of creating a version of faith that supports your politics?" Do you struggle answering this question with a simple yes or no? Why?
- Read Galatians 3:28. How did this show "culturally disruptive unity" in the body of Christ? For our context today, what additional distinctives could be included?
- Paul said, "When Jesus is reduced to Forgiver, Savior and Friend; instead of King -- there will be lesser kings on the throne of our heart." What could some of those lesser kings be?
- What action will you take this week to be FOR someone who you may disagree with? Ask your group to pray for you as you act. The font is different here.