

COUNTER FOLLOWING JESUS IN A CANCEL CULTURE CULTURE

Life
WEEK FIVE

SERIES BIG IDEA:

Jesus and scripture direct Christ-followers to live counter to culture, not conform to it.

The US Bus represents all the influences in our lives which direct how we think (our beliefs) and live (our actions).

- Emotions - Directed by what we feel.
- Relationships - Directed by what we've learned from people we know, their experiences, or the truth they believe.
- Experiences - Directed by what we've done or what's been done to us.
- Culture - Directed by the loudest and most influential voices in society.
- Traditions - Directed by what we've always done or always believed.
- Jesus & Scripture - Directed by the truth of Jesus and wisdom of scripture.

Jesus and scripture lead us to know the wisdom of God, which guides us in what to believe and how to behave.

When people oppose my view, I must remember they are made in the image of God, regardless of what they say or do.

How we share our beliefs are just as important as what we believe.

¹⁴Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. ¹⁵Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.

²⁹Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. ³⁰And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. ³²Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Ephesians 4:14-15, 29-32 (NIV)

Before we speak the truth from scripture, we must rid ourselves of all bitterness and unforgiveness so we can speak in love.

Jesus reveals to us the full nature of the God of the Bible. (Colossians 2:9)

All life belongs to God.

⁴For everyone belongs to me, the parent as well as the child—both alike belong to me. The one who sins is the one who will die..

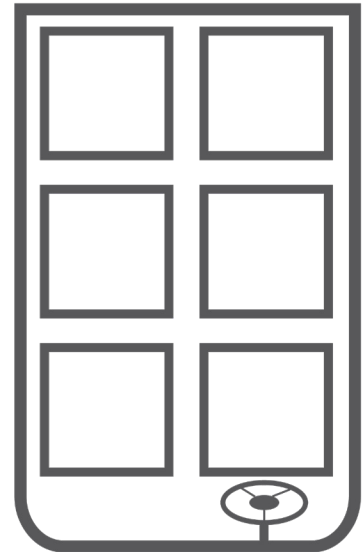
³⁰"Therefore, you Israelites, I will judge each of you according to your own ways, declares the Sovereign Lord. Repent! Turn away from all your offenses; then sin will not be your downfall. ³¹Rid yourselves of all the offenses you have committed, and get a new heart and a new spirit. Why will you die, people of Israel? ³²For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Sovereign Lord. Repent and live!

Ezekiel 18:4, 30-32 (NIV)

While death is the consequence of sin, God takes no pleasure in death.



What should drive our beliefs...



COUNTER CULTURE

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When God sees the unformed child, He sees His image that is His life.

Psalms 139:14-16; Psalm 22:9-10; Jeremiah 1:5; Luke 1:44; Galatians 1:15

While an unborn baby is hidden from us, he or she is not hidden from God.

TEACHING BIG IDEA:

Both the life of the woman with child and the life of the unformed child belong to God and are precious to Him.

Contend for life.

Proverbs 24:10-12 (NIV)

Share the gospel that leads to life with those who are broken in life.

- **God saves by forgiving us completely. (Psalm 103:11-12)**
- **God heals deeply. (Luke 7:50)**

RESOURCES: Text for prayer (913) 608-7575 | For counseling, open our App or visit westsideleavenworth.com/care



STAY CONNECTED:

Download the Westside Leavenworth App in your App Store or visit westsideleavenworth.com

WAYS TO GIVE:

Westside Leavenworth App (on your app store) westsideleavenworth.com/give
text "WestsideLV" to (833) 254-5174



TEACHING SUMMARY:

"When you see as Jesus sees, you will love as Jesus loves."
~ Kasey Robinson

Anytime we talk about difficult issues that statement is something that we must lean into. We must look at how Jesus lived, loved, and led and see how we are to live in relationships, love at all times, and lead those we have influence with.

What we learn from Jesus is that all life is precious. All of humanity was created in His image and is therefore precious to Him. Regardless of the choices, we make we were made in His image. Whether we are old, young, or not even born, we were created in His image.

Jesus came to contend for life, not just earthly life but to make a way for eternal life. We are to live as He did and contend for life.

So as we enter into a relationship with people who may not view life the same way we do we must remember that Jesus created them in His image and He died for their life in the same way He died for ours.

TALK IT OVER:

Do you ever struggle loving people who have a different viewpoint than you? Why do you think that is?

Do you believe that Jesus came and died to give all the opportunity to choose life with Him?

How does it feel to think that Jesus died to contend for your life and the life of the person you disagree with?

How can you share the Gospel and contend for life with everyone around you?

What is one next step you can take today?

DAILY BIBLE READINGS:

Day 1) James 3:13-17 (ESV)

Day 2) Colossians 2:2-4; Proverbs 2:1-11 (NIV)

Day 3) 1 Corinthians 1:18-25(NLT)

Day 4) Romans 11:33-36 (NLT); Ephesians 1:16-18 (ESV)

Day 5) Genesis 1: 27-28; Psalm 82:1-4 (NIV)

Day 6) Psalm, 139:13-15; Jeremiah 1:5