

OUTRAGEOUS

STUFF JESUS SAID

Life Group Questions: Divisive Jesus

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Read

Matthew 10:35-36, Luke 12:51-53

Reflect

Jesus was a polarizing figure when he was alive. Everyone had an opinion on this backwater preacher who said outrageous things. 2000 years later, nothing has changed; Jesus is just as divisive as ever. Think about your own life: what sort of division has your faith in Jesus brought? Why is Jesus so divisive? How do you typically respond to division?

Pastor Greg taught about three things to do when Jesus brings division to our world:

1. Be gracious, not arrogant
 - a. When you are convinced that you are right about something, arrogance is right around the corner. This is why faith and strong conviction so often and easily leads to arrogance. But our faith in Jesus should make us more humble, not arrogant.
 - b. In what situations do you tend to react with arrogance? How can we respond graciously instead?
2. Be tolerant, not judgmental
 - a. In our society, “tolerance” has become synonymous with “approval.” But being tolerant of others means refraining from judgment and allowing God to work in their lives, just as he is working in yours.
 - b. When do you tend to be judgmental of others? How can we trade that judgment for tolerance instead?
3. Be hopeful, not pessimistic
 - a. Jesus brought division, but that wasn’t the purpose of his coming. It would have been easy for his disciples to get discouraged after seeing all the division Jesus created. But Jesus knew there was more to the story.
 - b. Is there any division in your life right now that is making you pessimistic? How can you be hopeful instead?

What was your biggest take-away from the weekend message?

Respond

- What do you feel like God is asking you to do in response to the weekend message? What is your next step?
- How can your Small Group support you and hold you accountable in this?