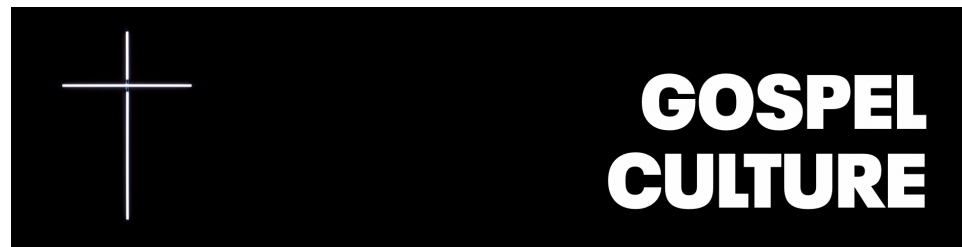


This study adapted from Ray Ortlund. His book, articles, videos, sermons and interviews on the topic of gospel culture are some of the most clear and helpful on the topic that I have found. The two resources I drew most heavily from were his book, **The Gospel: How the church portrays the beauty of Christ** and the article, **How to Build a Gospel Culture in Your Church**.



"Welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you for the glory of God." - Romans 15:7

Circle up in groups of 3-4 to discuss:

#1 - How has "Christ...welcomed" you?

#2 - What does it look like to "welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you"?

Big idea: Faithfulness to the gospel only occurs when gospel _____ results in a gospel _____.

DEFINING TERMS

What is gospel doctrine?

What is gospel culture?

Gospel doctrine _____ gospel culture.

- The doctrine of regeneration creates a culture of humility (Eph. 2:1-9).
- The doctrine of justification creates a culture of inclusion (Gal. 2:11-16).
- The doctrine of reconciliation creates a culture of peace (Eph. 2:14-16).
- The doctrine of sanctification creates a culture of life (Rom. 6:20-23).
- The doctrine of glorification creates a culture of hope (Rom. 5:2).
- The doctrine of God creates a culture of honesty (1 John 1:5-10).

"One cannot explain the explosive dynamite, the dunamis, of the early church apart from the fact that they practiced two things simultaneously: orthodoxy of doctrine and orthodoxy of community in the midst of the visible church, a community which the world could see. By the grace of God, therefore, the church must be known simultaneously for its purity of doctrine and the reality of its community. Our churches have so often been only preaching points with very little emphasis on community, but exhibition of the love of God in practice is beautiful and must be there." - Francis Schaeffer



It is possible sincerely to preach true doctrine while, at the same time, utterly deny that doctrine by an ugly anti-gospel culture.

GOSPEL DOCTRINE - GOSPEL CULTURE = HYPOCRISY

When Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. For before certain men came from James, he was eating with the Gentiles; but when they came he drew back and separated himself, fearing the circumcision party. And the rest of the Jews acted hypocritically along with him, so that even Barnabas was led astray by their hypocrisy. (Gal. 2:11-13)

Peter, though, he believed and taught the truth, was denying it by how he was living.

Peter was not driven by ignorance, but _____. Fear of human disapproval: "He drew back and separated himself, fearing the circumcision party." In other words, the problem entered in not at the level of doctrine but at the level of culture.

GOSPEL CULTURE - GOSPEL DOCTRINE = UNSUSTAINABLE

Reaching for gospel culture is noble, but without the foundations, resources and solid hope, we won't be able to keep it up.

"To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace...if Christ is in us, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness." (Romans 8:6,10)

Woodstock always leads to some version of Altamont. Writing for The New Yorker in 2015, Richard Brody argued that what Altamont ended was "the idea that, left to their own inclinations and stripped of the trappings of the wider social order, the young people of the new generation will somehow spontaneously create a higher, gentler, more loving grassroots order. What died at Altamont was that dream itself." [35]

GOSPEL DOCTRINE + GOSPEL CULTURE = POWER

What does this look like in practice?

We openly share our _____ with _____. (Is 57:15, Luke 1:53)

We speak with honesty about our _____. (1 John 1:7, Luke 18:13)

We fill our conversation with _____ of good news.

We _____ each other in showing _____. (Romans 12:10)

We welcome others into the deepest parts of our homes and hearts with _____, _____ and _____.