

GRACE POINT

Separation of Church and Hate

Matthew 5:14-16, Colossians 4:5-6

1. What was most memorable, challenging, or encouraging from the message this week?
2. On a scale from 1 to 10, how interested are you in politics?
3. Outside of your family, think of the people you interact with most. What percentage of those people think pretty much the same way as you politically?
4. Would you say you grew up in a religious environment that was primarily for things or primarily against things?
5. Read Matthew 5:14-16. How can Jesus followers be light in our current political climate?
6. Of the five behaviors Tim mentioned, which one do you identify with most? Which one do you struggle with the most?
 - They constantly leaned relationally in the direction of those they disagreed with the most.
 - They were constantly at odds with the religious majority of their day.
 - They were not concerned about guilt by association.
 - They refused to be dragged into debates that distracted them from the primary issues.
 - They didn't judge non-Christians for behaving like non-Christians.
7. When it comes to politics and 1) being light and 2) having conversations full of grace, what's a next step for you?

MOVING FORWARD

It's easy for churches and Christians to make a point. It's a lot harder to make a difference. But that's what we believe we've been called to do as a church. Your favorite candidate won or lost based on how our country voted this week. However, the church will win or lose based on our behavior moving forward.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

Matthew 5: 14-16