

CULTURE IS_

BUILDING A LIFE THAT LASTS

How to Communicate the Gospel Clearly

SUMMARY:

During this series, we will be discussing what culture is and the type of culture we want to embody as Christ-followers. Culture is the behaviors of individuals within a family, organization, or church that create accountability and momentum. These Gospel-driven, Holy Spirit-empowered behaviors cultivate unity and empower the vision of the family, organization, or church to flourish individually and collectively. Cultural behaviors are not only good for the family, organization, or church. These behaviors also make the individuals in the organization good.

The first culture trait we strive towards is clarity. Brené Brown has written, “Clear is kind. Unclear is unkind.” She first heard this phrase at a 12-step meeting. As Christ-followers, how do we develop clear communication? We can use an acronym to help us: C – Christ-honoring speech comes from prayer; L – Listening is loving, loving is listening; E – Explain what you are thinking and feeling; A – Accept and, by faith, live from your new identity in Christ; R – Remember the glory of God.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Have you ever left a conversation feeling unclear about what was said? Share about why this might be a frustrating experience.

Read Colossians 4:2-4.

- What does it mean to devote yourself to prayer?
- Why is prayer an important first step?

Read Proverbs 18:2.

- In what ways do people show off their opinions and how is this harmful?

Read James 1:19.

- Do you know someone who is a good listener? What makes them a good listener?
- What might this look like when sharing the gospel story with someone?

Read Colossians 4:5-6.

- At the time this was written, salt was an important commodity and was used as a preservative. How does this translate to what the Apostle Paul is saying in these verses regarding our speech?
- How do we remain both authentic and prudent with our words?

Read Colossians 3:1-3.

- What is your primary identity according to these verses?
- How does your new identity in Christ change the way you communicate?

Read Colossians 1:15-16.

- These verses are talking about Jesus. What does the Apostle Paul mean by saying that Jesus is the image of the invisible God?
- How does looking at Jesus provide guidance on how we communicate?
- How did Jesus share the Good News with people while He was on earth?

If time allows, take this opportunity to practice sharing the Gospel story with one another. End your time by praying for God to give opportunity to communicate clearly the Good News with a friend, neighbor, or family member.

SOUL TATTOO: Be clear for the glory of God.

ACTION STEP: Participate in the Hunger Project.

You can serve as a TC Group at the Hunger Project! Just make sure you click that option when registering. Head over to transformationchurch.tc to sign up.