



new life fellowship

Sermon Title: Putting God on Display in Polarizing Times

Speaker: Jason Gaboury – Preacher, Author, InterVarsity National Director

Scriptures: 1 Peter 2: 9 -17

9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. 10 Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Living Godly Lives in a Pagan Society

11 Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. 12 Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

13 Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority, 14 or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right. 15 For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people. 16 Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God's slaves. 17 Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor.

Sermon Summary:

God invites us to resist polarization by remembering who we are in Christ, focusing our anger in healthy ways, pursuing what's right, and putting God on display. This Sunday, New Lifer Jason Gaboury continues our series on Faith and Politics focusing on what it means to bear witness to Christ in a time of political division.

Sermon Questions:

1. Reread 1 Peter 2:9-17. What inspires or challenges you in this passage?
2. When is a time you received mercy in a way that made your heart sing?
3. Jason shared that affective polarization or harboring disdain for people who are different than us is at an all time high. In what ways have you experienced the temptation to harbor disdain in your own life against people who are different from you?
4. "Remember who you are
So even you are mad
You can do what's right
And put God on display"

Jason invited us to "use the mad that you feel to say no to the things that are at war with your soul."

How could remembering who you are help when navigating anger? What do you think it looks like to use the mad that we feel to resist and say no to the things that are warring for our souls?

5. "The whole point of being chosen is to be a people who know God's love and show God's love." Where do you find yourself struggling to know God's love and/or show God's love? Spend time praying for God's help to know and show his love.