

Culturally Relevant

May 30, 2021

PICC Core Values

- Pursuing Excellence
- Intentional in Growth
- Connected, Authentic Relationships
- Culturally Relevant

Jesus and Culture:

Christ AGAINST Culture
Christ OF Culture
Christ ABOVE Culture
Christ TRANSFORMING Culture

We need to UNDERSTAND our culture so that we can be strategic in cooperating with God in TRANSFORMING our culture.

Ephesians 6:11

"Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes."

1 Chronicles 12:32

"from Issachar, men who understood the times and knew what Israel should do."

Acts 13:36

"Now when David had served God's purposes in his own generation, he fell asleep..."

Acts 17:22-23

"Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: "People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. ²³ For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO AN UNKNOWN GOD. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship—and this is what I am going to proclaim to you."

We UNDERSTAND our Culture

Acts 17:16

"Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him when he saw that the city was given over to idols."

What are some idols in our culture?

- The Idol of Celebrity
- The Idol of Self

Acts 17:24-28

"The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. ²⁵ And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else. ²⁶ From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. ²⁷ God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. ²⁸ 'For in him we live and move and have our being.' As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring.'"

We begin by loving people not lecturing them

- 1) by meeting them where they are not where we want them to be.
- 2) by telling them of the goodness of God not the wretchedness of their sin.

Acts 17:29-31

"Therefore since we are God's offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by human design and skill. ³⁰ In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. ³¹ For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead."

We bring the TRUTH to the Culture

Acts 17:32-34

"When they heard about the resurrection of the dead, some of them sneered, but others said, "We want to hear you again on this subject." ³³ At that, Paul left the Council. ³⁴ Some of the people became followers of Paul and believed. Among them was Dionysius, a member of the Areopagus, also a woman named Damaris, and a number of others."

We may not see the whole culture change but we can see a person IN the culture change.

I am serving the purposes of God in MY generation

Notes