



ESCAPE FROM ENTANGLEMENT

This week we are discussing the Church as it engages in the RESISTANCE of the sinful and broken culture around it.

After watching Pastor Patrick introduce the topic of Resistance, and the pastors discussion, please pause the video and take time to discuss these questions among your group.

1) Consider movies, books, or even moments of history where resistance is a major plot of the events.

- What are some moments of resistance that would be considered bad or detrimental?
- Now, consider moments of good resistance?
- What makes resistance so attractive to us?
- What makes resistance so frustrating?
- What can be learned about our own lives by observing these examples?

2) The Church should be counter-cultural. It is a Divine institution that is meant to worship God and reflect God's goodness and love to the world. Because of this, the Church should resist the flesh and the sinfulness of this world.

- What are some things that the Church has resisted in the past?
- What are some things the Church should currently be resisting?
- What happens when the Church and/or individual Christians don't resist?
- Is there a story or memory that you can think of when you or someone close to you resisted the culture? How did that grow faith or glorify God?

3) Read Colossians 1:1-14

In verses 9 and 10, we see the content of Paul's prayer for the Colossians. Paul asks for the Colossian church to be filled with spiritual wisdom and understanding so that they can walk in a manner worthy of the Lord.

- What does it mean to "walk in a manner worthy of the Lord"?
- How have you seen that done well in the life of the Church?
- How have you seen it done poorly?
- Why is it important to bear fruit and continually increase in the knowledge of God?
- When was the last time that you prayed as a group to be filled with spiritual wisdom and understanding? Before you conclude your group, make sure to pray for that... you can even pray for it right now!

4) In verse 13, Paul tells the Colossians that God has delivered them (and all Christians) from the domain of darkness and transferred them to the kingdom of His beloved Son.

- What is the domain of darkness?
- Why is it important to know how one is transferred to the kingdom of the Son?
- How can this message help you live in such a way that you share with others why you are resisting the culture around you? And how you are resisting even your own flesh/desires/sin?

Now turn back to the video for a final word and challenge from Pastor Patrick. Afterwards, take a moment to discuss the challenge among your group members as well.