

Biblical Justice Week 3: One But Not the Same

Summary

America is dreadfully divided over politics, race, gender and class. Unfortunately, the Church has dropped the ball in these areas as well. Galatians 3:28 states, "There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." Paul gives us the Kingdom paradigm for how Christians can be one without being the same.

Teacher: Dr. Chris Williamson, Strong Tower Bible Church, Nashville, TN

Discussion Questions

- 1. We know the church in general has been known for being divided over race, class, and gender differences. Paul comes along and presents us with a statement on diverse-unity in Galatians 3:28. The apostle reminds us that we can be one in Christ without having to be the same. Paul lived out kingdom diversity in his life and in his ministry for others to follow. In what ways does your life currently exemplify the kingdom diversity of God in terms of race, class, and gender? In what ways is your family following your example?
- 2. As it pertains to race, class, and gender matters, which area are you the strongest in and which area are you the weakest in when it comes to experiencing God's Diverse Kingdom?
- 3. At one point, Paul had to rebuke Peter concerning his racial hypocrisy (Galatians 2:11 16). This proved that Peter was still in process like the rest of us. What are some of the fears, concerns, or reservations you have when it comes to living out God's Diverse Kingdom? How do you feel you could be "called out?"
- 4. Why does the church in general tend to operate in uniformity when it comes to politics? How has this somewhat ruined our witness to the world?
- 5. What are some things you believe Wooddale Church can do in order to better experience God's Diverse Kingdom across race, class and gender differences?

Resource

Our suggested resource this week is Dr. Chris Williamson's book, *One But Not the Same*. It can be found on Amazon.

Next Steps

For three weeks in a row we have talked about that section of The Lord's Prayer that says, "Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven." This week, make a commitment to pray The Lord's Prayer every day.

Looking for ways to get involved in the work of justice? Check our <u>WeAreFor</u> page that features a variety of local ministries with whom Wooddale partners. As you scroll through the page, do so in an attitude of prayer. Ask God if there is a ministry represented on this page that He wants you to be involved with. Many of these ministries work on issues we are addressing in this series.

Next Week

Our speaker is Dorena Williamson, first lady at Strong Tower Bible Church, Nashville, TN. Dorena is the author of several books for children with B&H Publishing. She will be talking about how to talk to kids about race.