

Fearless Q – Week 3

ARE WE STILL ONE NATION UNDER GOD?

discussing church & culture

HEAD

1. **Where do we go to understand?**

-search the scriptures - stick to what the scriptures say

- Daniel 1:8-17
- John 16:33
- John 18:36
- 1 Peter 2:11-17
- Romans 13:1-7



HEART

2. **What questions does this cause you to ask?**

-acknowledge the struggle - do not attempt to answer now

- What kind of world will my kids inherit?
- What about when everyone is against me?
- Do I even have a voice anymore?
- I'm afraid of the future!
- Does God love my country?
- How do I love my political opponents?
- How can I support a government I don't feel represents my values?
- Other _____



3. **How do the scriptures above help as you wrestle through your questions?**

-invite the Spirit into the mystery—use your Bible study to wrestle

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What Chapel Hill's pastors have understood in our wrestling:

Relax. We are called to be in this world, but God's Kingdom is not of this world. Do you trust him?

HANDS



4. How can we talk about this with others?

-practice the conversation

- At family dinner your atheist father announces his plan to sell the family property, buy an RV, and move out to the desert to flee everything he fears coming. How do you assuage his fears and invite his engagement in the world?
- A coworker regularly talks disdainfully about our current governmental leaders by name. Now they have approached your desk with their latest set of complaints. How do you respond?

5. Take it to the Lord in prayer.

"Glorious Triune God, lately my attitude about the American political process has been brewing and spewing a cesspool of irritation and cynicism... a sure indication that I need the gospel to settle and center me. So I begin this day reminding myself of exactly who you are, and as I do, I'm going to deeply inhale the rarefied air of heaven, which constantly exudes the grace and peace I desperately need. I do my best repenting by remembering who you are. So as I pray this Scripture, restore me to gospel-sanity.

Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth (Revelation 1:4-5)." – (from Scott Smith, "A Prayer About American Politics and My Bad Attitude", www.thegospelcoalition.org, September 6, 2010.)

In Jesus' name, Amen.