

Small Group Discussion Questions

Following the Weekend of June 1-2, 2024

No need to answer every question. Feel free to jump around.

Winsome Persuasion

(James 3:13-18)

Alan Kraft, Lead Pastor

Group Interaction & Application

Read aloud together James 3:13-18.

What words, phrases, concepts, or images from these verses stand out to you as you just read them, or create a curiosity for you in some way?

What aspects of Pastor Alan's message gave you fresh insight into this passage, or helped you the most in understanding these verses and what we experience here?

When have you seen persuasion have more impact than power?

Persuasion could be seen as positive or negative. What qualities are present in healthy persuasion?

Pastor Alan posed the following question - "Which will result in more lasting, long-term change in a society? An election in which your tribe gains power... Or a movement in which an increasing number of people are persuaded by the rightness of your cause?"

How do you respond to the above question?

How much trust do you have in the power of persuasion to help bring about the changes you long for?

Pastor Alan states that the purpose of government is not to advance the gospel but is instead a limited institution put in place to help maintain order while promoting justice and limiting evil. (1 Peter 2:13-14)

In what ways does this challenge or support how you have viewed government up to this point?

In what ways does this potentially change your view of the role of government?

Pastor Alan states that Christ followers should not look to government to save society – that this is instead the role of the church.

What is your response to this position? Agree? Disagree? Uncertain?

Pastor Alan does suggest that we can use government to help promote justice.

What injustices do you see yourself having the ability to address through the avenue of government?

If you have placed expectations on the government to help change people's hearts, how is this going?

What could it look like for the church to take a stronger lead in bringing about change (being more gentle, more humble, doing good)? (James 3:13, Matthew 5:16)

When has your heart become more like Christ's through the power of persuasion (maybe through a Christian friend, a sermon, an experience)?

What changes, if any, do you see yourself making in how you engage with politics or social discord moving forward from this sermon series?

Conclude by praying for one another in taking practical next steps in applying this weekend's message and group discussion, after which pray for group needs and concerns.

Messages are available in audio or video on our App or at cccgreeley.org.