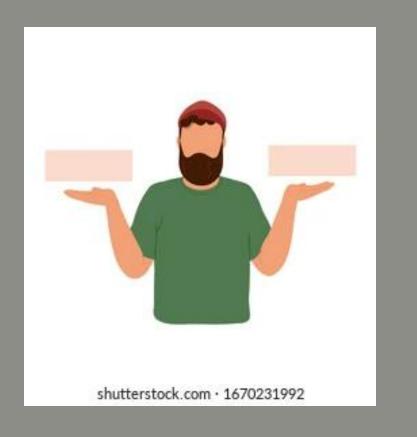
CULTURAL CHANGES IN THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

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Traditions vs. the Commands of God



Mark 7

- You ignore the commands of God
- You skillfully sidestep the commands of God
- You refuse to obey the commands of God
- ...and you do many things like that

12 Potential areas for Cultural Change

- 1. Facilitating presence
- 2. Who is invited to friendship?
- 3. Religious education/faith development Practice/Goals/Outcomes
- 4. Affirming what should be affirmed in our culture
- 5. The typical worship service
- 6. Providing opportunities for involvement/roles
- 7. Creating platforms for prophetic voices
- 8. Seeing needs and addressing them
- 9. Programs versus relationships
- 10. Evangelize people with disabilities and disciple them
- 11.Broadening acceptable social skills
- 12.Ecumenical cooperation in supporting people with disabilities and their families

1. Facilitating presence

Good Samaritan

"I feel like I am not ignored"

2. Who is invited to friendship?

Chicago Church

3. Religious education/faith development – Practice/Goals/Outcomes

What specifically are we trying to achieve?

Our "paradigm"

What does our history tell us?

4. Affirming what should be affirmed in our culture

What things are we doing well that don't need to be changed?

5. The typical worship service

What must stay the same?

What things are culture/traditions that can or should be changed?

6. Providing opportunities for involvement/roles

Who serves in what ways in the church?

What roles might be developed for those with more limited abilities

8. Creating platforms for prophetic voices

Grandmother example

Love God and love your neighbor

9. Seeing needs and addressing them

Does loving our neighbors cost us anything?

What demands are we willing to place on our members?

10. Evangelize people with disabilities and disciple them

- Are people with disabilities a priority for ministry?
- What is the evidence that they are a priority for ministry?
- If they aren't a priority for ministry, why aren't they?

"Whose people" are those who attend with disabilities?

11. Broadening acceptable social skills

What might be acceptable changes in expected social skills within the church?

Are social skill traditions causing us to exclude persons whom we should be including?

12. Ecumenical cooperation in supporting people with disabilities and their families

Could the support of persons with disabilities be something that could bring different denominations together?

From the Lord of the Rings Haldir an elf says something to the effect "The power of the enemy is seen in the disarray of those who oppose him."

THANK YOU FOR LISTENING!

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