

We're living in a _____ :

1. Christians in America are now a “_____.”

A group of people whose view of the world differs significantly from the one taken-for-granted in a society.

2. The Church has transitioned from an institution of _____ to _____.

3. The Church has transitioned from _____ to a _____.

—John Mark Comer (Author, Pastor: Bridgetown Church/Portland)

Counterculture: a culture with values and morals that run counter to those of established society. — Merriam-Webster

Context of 1Peter:

- Written around _____, prior to when Peter was martyred.
- _____ toward Christians in the region of modern-day Turkey.

Two words to describe their social disenfranchisement:

“_____” (parepidemos) refers to people who reside in a place but who stay there only for a brief time. 1:1

“_____” (paroikos) refers to people who reside in a given place without the legal protections and rights provided for citizens 1:17

I urge you, as foreigners and exiles... 1 Peter 2:11

Peter's first letter addresses Christians who are suffering simply because they are trying to follow Jesus.

“Yes, you are exiles who are _____ but, you are _____ by God and He is going to _____ you into _____ Jesus.” (Peter, v2)

TALK IT OVER

Talking through the message during the week can really help clarify the things that God is teaching you and let others learn from your experiences. Get with someone this week and talk about your answers to the following questions:

What idea from the message helped you the most?

What was the most challenging part in the message for you?

Do you think we are living in a post-Christian culture? Why or why not?

In what ways (helpful & unhelpful) have you observed Christians living “counterculturally?”

In what ways have you felt like an “exile” or “foreigner?”

In what ways can you see God shaping you to be like Jesus through the unique times we're living in?

What questions remain for you about living as a Christian in a culture that isn't?

Suggested practices to be countercultural in the Jesus way:

- Solitude and prayer. Matthew 14:23
- Doing life with a diverse community called the church. Eph 2:19
- Intentionally cultivate relationships with the unchurched. Luke 7:34
- Meditation: Immerse yourself in scripture. Romans 12:2

TALK IT OVER

Talking through the message during the week can really help clarify the things that God is teaching you and let others learn from your experiences. Get with someone this week and talk about your answers to the following questions:

We're living in a POST CHRISTIAN CULTURE:

1. Christians in America are now a “COGNITIVE MINORITY.”

A group of people whose view of the world differs significantly from the one taken-for-granted in a society.

2. The Church has transitioned from an institution of HONOR to SHAME.

3. The Church has transitioned from TOLERANCE to a RISING HOSTILITY.

—John Mark Comer (Author, Pastor: Bridgetown Church/Portland)

Counterculture: a culture with values and morals that run counter to those of established society. — Merriam-Webster

Context of 1Peter:

- Written around 64-65AD, prior to when Peter was martyred.
- HOSTILITY IS BUILDING toward Christians in the region of modern-day Turkey.

Two words to describe their social disenfranchisement:

“EXILES” (parepidemos) refers to people who reside in a place but who stay there only for a brief time. 1:1

“FOREIGNERS” (paroikos) refers to people who reside in a given place without the legal protections and rights provided for citizens 1:17

I urge you, as foreigners and exiles... 1 Peter 2:11

Peter's first letter addresses Christians who are suffering simply because they are trying to follow Jesus.

“Yes, you are exiles who are SCATTERED but, you are CHOSEN by God and He is going to TRANSFORM you into BEING LIKE Jesus.” (Peter, v2)

What idea from the message helped you the most?

What was the most challenging part in the message for you?

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