



## Sermon Notes: How Do I Relate to Culture?

### 1. How might we relate to culture?

- a. Condemn.
- b. Critique.
- c. Copy.
- d. Consume.

### 2. What risks and dangers should we be aware of?

- a. Beware dogmatism and reductionism.
- b. Beware consumerism.
- c. Beware separatism.
- d. Beware triumphalism.

### 3. What's the solution? How should we live?

- a. Faithfully exegete Scripture and culture.
- b. Seek biblically wise and balanced responses.
- c. Cultivate and create in the name of Jesus.

### 4. What might that look like?

- a. A biblical illustration.
- b. A contemporary illustration.



## Gospel Applications: How Do I Relate to Culture?

1. How would you define "culture"? Before this message, would you have said culture was basically good, basically bad, or neutral? Discuss.
2. Which of the 4 "C" words best describes your general posture toward pop culture? If you had to choose one of your own words to describe your general posture toward culture, what would it be? Explain.
3. What are some limitations and dangers you've observed regarding your posture toward culture? (e.g. If you're a consumer, what problems has that created for you?)
4. How would you know if you were "worldly" or not? Why doesn't the Bible just say to avoid the world and insulate yourself against it?
5. On a scale of 1 (not at all) to 10 (thoroughly), how well do you think you understand your immediate culture and cultural trends? What are some questions you could ask to better understand these things? What are some other ways you could better educate yourself?
6. What is biblical contextualization? Why is it necessary? What are some dangers of contextualization (what would make it go very badly)?
7. What are some differences between a posture and a gesture? Give examples of when each of the 4 "Cs" would be the right gesture.
8. What are some examples of beliefs and actions in our culture that you could/should *commend*? What are some that you could/should *condemn*? What are some that you're not sure about?
9. Consider the metaphors of salt, light, and a city-within-a-city. How does each reflect a spirit of cultivation and creation?
10. Practically, how does this discussion change the way you're going to seek to relate to culture going forward? Give a concrete example of something you're going to change right away.