

09/24/17

CRAIG REES

FAULT-FINDING AND FINGER POINTING

BOTTOM LINE:

PUT YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS AT THE FRONT OF YOUR COMMUNICATION, AVOIDING FIXED CATEGORY THINKING THAT PRIORITIZES POLICIES OVER PEOPLE.

KEY VERSES:

MATTHEW 5:17-20 John 3:1-10; 5:46 7:47-50; 12:37-43; 19:39 Acts 15:5

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What was your major take away from the message this morning?

2. What unnecessary either/or choices have you been asked to make?

3.Do you have close friendships with people whose position on important issues is completely different than yours? (see John 9:16) How do you avoid both disengaging and arguing?

4.How easy is it for you to be civil with people on the other side of the political aisle? What strategies do you use to help you?

5. If it's true that as long as politicians need to mobilize their base and interest groups need to raise funds, we'll always be asked to pick a side – how do we tackle issues and still show the heart of God to those who differ?

6.What strategies can we use to avoid villainizing people with whom we strongly disagree?

7. The vision of Christianity is for people to experience the rule and reign of God. If the suggestion that we don't establish this through fault-finding and finger-pointing is correct, how can the 'person in the pew' help usher in God's reign in a divided nation?

8.Like the blind man's parents in the story, many of us try hard to stay out of contentious debates. What lessons can we learn from this man's response to the Pharisees questioning that will help us 'stand on our story'?

