

Spirit of the Age

“ How Do We Respond when Everything is at a Fever Pitch ”

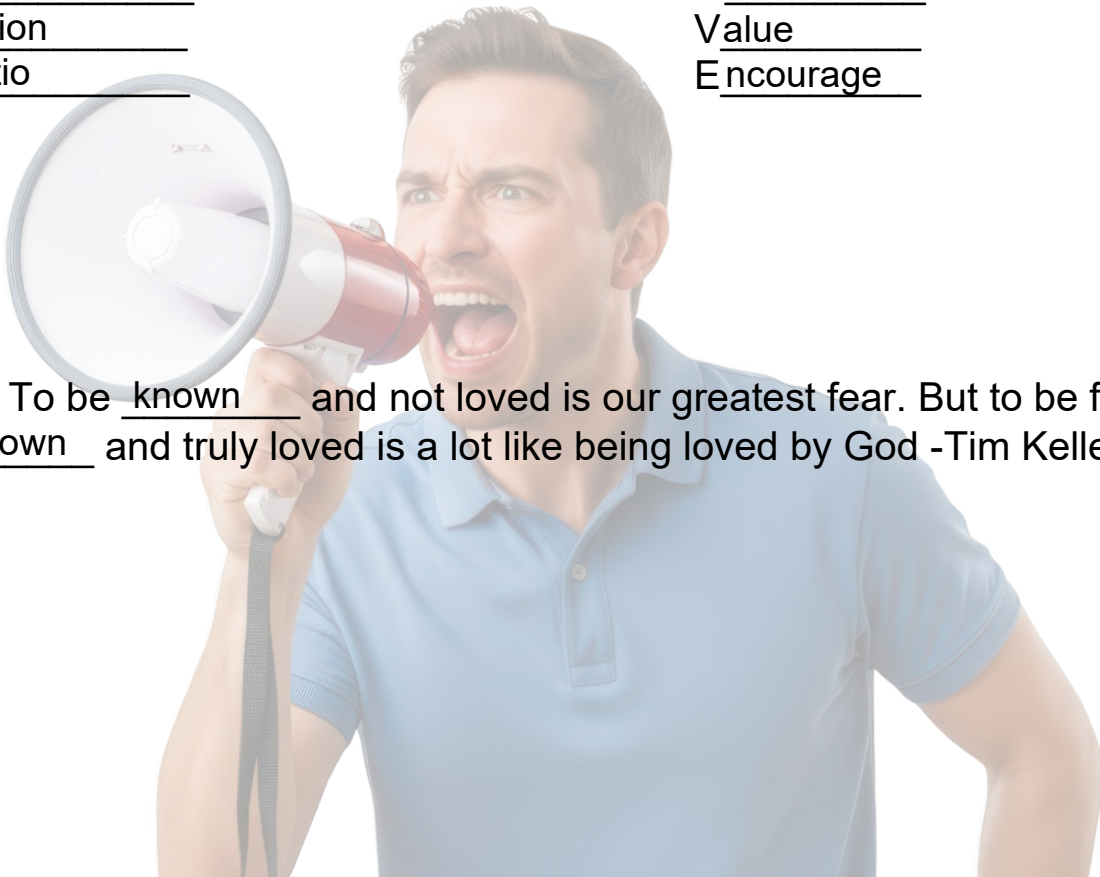
1. We falsely believe that Christians living like Christians will not cause controversy. Truth: There is no way to live as an authentic Christian that does not disrupt or upset the world.

2. LIAR vs LOVEr

Low
I nformation to
Action
Ratio

L isten
Observe
Value
E ncourage

3. To be known and not loved is our greatest fear. But to be fully known and truly loved is a lot like being loved by God -Tim Keller



Grow Group Discussion Questions

A grow group is 8-16 people who get together weekly to study God's word and the previous Sunday's message. There is a time of discussion, support, encouragement, and learning how the message applies to daily life.

PCC uses the ESV (English Standard Version).

HOW DO I JOIN A GROUP?

To learn more or join a group, visit pacificcoastchurch.org/gg/ or sign up at the patio Info Kiosk.

Point #1

- a) Read Acts 19:8-12, 17-20. What led to such a radical transformation of the spiritual culture in Ephesus?
- b) What does the phrase "Christians living like Christians", inspire for your own personal application?

Point #2

- a) What are some examples of how we get caught up in a Low Information to Action Ratio?
- b) What is one way you want to practice LOVE for which your grow group can keep you accountable?

Point #3

- a) Read Acts 19:28-32. Why would Paul want to make a defense to the crowd? Do you think it's related to point #3?
- b) Who are the people that matter to you to be fully known and loved by? Who are the ones that don't?

Daily Devotions

These are provided for mid-week personal spiritual growth. Prayerfully writing out your answers will help you experience real life transformation as you dig deeper into the spiritual truths of God's word and today's message.

A downloadable PDF of this document is also available each week at pacificcoastchurch.org/sermons.

MONDAY // Read Acts 19:8-12, 17-20

- Why do you think Paul decided to focus on the disciples rather than the obstinate ones attending the synagogue?
- Why did people get rid of their pagan paraphernalia? What would lead them to do this?
- What does this tell you about how you should approach cultural renewal?

TUESDAY // Read Ephesians 2:1-5

- What are the "ways of this world" and "spirit who is at work"? How are we influenced by it?
- What are some of the ways this "spirit of the age" may have changed over the course of your life?
- What does it mean to you that you were dead in your transgressions, but made alive in Christ?

WEDNESDAY // Read Acts 18:27-34, 2 Corinthians 10:5, Colossians 2:8

- Why was Paul's ministry and Christians living like Christians so upsetting to the Ephesians?
- Have you seen a group of people swell to an emotional fever pitch like this? Should Paul have gone inside?
- How do you respond to emotionally charged situations? How does this passage inform how we should respond?

THURSDAY // Read Acts 19:35-41, Proverbs 10:19, Proverbs 21:23

- Who are "these men" that the town clerk is referring to? Is Paul one of them?
- What ultimately calmed down the crowd? Would Paul have had the same effect? Would it be wise for him to try?
- What are the situations that we should just stay out of? Where might you need to defer to someone else?

FRIDAY // Read Philippians 4:6-9, Proverbs 18:13, James 1:19

- What are the thoughts or concerns that fill your mind that you have little control or influence over?
- What are the kinds of things you read that you want to dwell on instead?
- Where today do you need to listen, observe, and respond with value and encouragement?

SATURDAY // Read 1 Peter 1:13, 1 Peter 4:7, 1 Peter 5:8, 2 Peter 1:5-6

- Why do you think sober mindedness and self-control (mastery) are a big theme for Peter?
- What does the world, flesh, and devil try to tell you about a sober mind and self-control/mastery?
- What areas of your thoughts and feelings are you convicted to ask God for help mastering?

MEDITATION VERSE: *See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ.*

Colossians 2:8