

Today's Message: "Choosing Turbulence: Part 3"

The "will of God" for you...

- Week 1 - *This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent. John 6:29*
- Week 2 - *For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people. - 1 Peter 2:15*
- Week 3 - *For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality. - 1 Thessalonians 4:3*

Judge not, that you be not judged. ² For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. ³ Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? ⁴ Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when there is the log in your own eye? ⁵ You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye. (Matthew 7:1-5, ESV)

Finally, then, brothers we ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God, just as you are doing, that you do so more and more. ² For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus. ³ For this is the will of God, your sanctification that you abstain from sexual immorality; ⁴ that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, ⁵ not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God; ⁶ that no one transgress and wrong his brother in this matter, because the Lord is an avenger in all these things, as we told you beforehand and solemnly warned you. ⁷ For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness. ⁸ Therefore whoever disregards this, disregards not man but God, who gives his Holy Spirit to you. (1 Thessalonians 4:1-8, ESV)

"As alien and archaic as the idea may seem the role of the church is not to make men and woman happy; it is to make them holy."
- Chuck Colson

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[porneia] = sexual immorality

What comes out of a person is what defiles him. ²¹ For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, ²² coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. ²³ All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.” (Mark 7:20-23, ESV)

“But from the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female.’ ⁷ Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, ⁸ and the two shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two but one flesh. ⁹ What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.” (Mark 10:6-9, ESV)

My Posture

#1 I will agree to disagree in love

#2 This will not be my focus

#3 I will own my part of the tension

“I want to be a church known for discussing tough cultural issues but not being defined by them. I want to be a church that is not seeking to define the sins of the lost rather be first and foremost seeking to find and save the lost.”

– Scott Stevens

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Small Group or Personal Reflection Questions:

1. Read Matthew 7:1 – 5. Who do we have the right to judge? What should be our posture when it comes to judging others?
2. In the sermon Scott said; “We are so noble for God when it is an issue we do not struggle with. Our mantra is ‘mercy for me, justice for them.’” What are your thoughts?
3. Share your thoughts and perspectives around the Supreme Court’s decision on same sex marriage.
4. There were three postures discussed in the sermon (they are listed above). Why is our posture on sensitive and complex matters so important? How are you “doing” with your posture on this topic or other controversial topics?
5. Read John 13: 31-36. How are you doing being known “by your love?” Is there something your group can take on in the coming season to “be known by your love?”

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