

The Duggar Family of TLC's "19 Kids and Counting"



Some critics say
The Duggars illustrate a Life style of -
Hypocrisy, Intolerance, Repression,
and Hate disguised as religion!

"Good TV but Sugarcoated rat
poison, politically speaking"

They follow the teaching of Bill
Gothard's (IBLP)
Institute in Basic Life Principles

Political Ethics

How can Christians be salt
and light in a world that
follows a different drummer?

Rules of Engagement in the Culture Wars

Jesus and his disciples came into a world of slavery,
dictatorship, unjust taxation, and religious persecution
where they were misunderstood and falsely accused of
propagating evil.

Jesus & early Christians were accused of:

- Hypocrisy - breaking the moral Law of God
- Burning Nero's Rome
- Cannibalism at the Lord's supper
- Incest - because they met at night in secret
- Atheism - because they did not respect the gods
- Self-righteousness, Judgmentalism
- Lack of patriotism
- Inciting revolution and violence.

***What they say can be
summarized in three words.***

The Social Ethics of Jesus & his disciples

Parochial

The attention is given to the
inner life of the church not the
political systems of the state.

Pacifist

With respect to the state,
the Christian is called to
peacemaking, & submission
rather than revolt or reform.

Personal

Change starts with the inside
(the heart) and the individual
(relationships) not the political
systems or external laws.

CULTURE WAR

The world sees cultural
change in terms of **biology,**
politics, & economics.

The world sees pacifism as
disengaged, insignificant,
weakness.

The world sees evolutionary
change coming from
external political systems,
laws, and science.

Contrasting views of power and change

**Modeling
values
through the
church**

The Cross

**Inside out
Bottom up**

CULTURE WAR

**Politics &
Economics**

Force

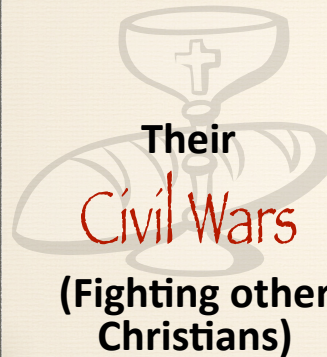
**Outside in
Top down**

John 17

"18 As Thou didst send Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. 19 And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they themselves also may be sanctified in truth. 20 I do not ask in behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word; 21 that they may all be one; even as Thou, Father, art in Me, and I in Thee, that they also may be in Us; that the world may believe that Thou didst send Me. 22 And the glory which Thou hast given Me I have given to them; that they may be one, just as We are one; 23 I in them, and Thou in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, that the world may know that Thou didst send Me, and didst love them, even as Thou didst love Me."

- Jesus was the model of how his followers should engage the world.
- What was Jesus modeling?

Spiritual Warfare in Corinth (What not to do!)



1 Peter 3

"8 To sum up, all of you be harmonious, sympathetic, brotherly, kindhearted, and humble in spirit; 9 not returning evil for evil or insult for insult, but giving a blessing instead; for you were called for the very purpose that you might inherit a blessing. 10 For,

*"The one who desires life, to love and see good days,
Must keep his tongue from evil and his lips from
speaking deceit.*

11 *"He must turn away from evil and do good;
He must seek peace and pursue it.*

12 *"For the eyes of the Lord are toward the righteous,
And His ears attend to their prayer,
But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."*

1 Peter 3

"13 Who is there to harm you if you prove zealous for what is good? 14 But even if you should suffer for the sake of righteousness, you are blessed. And do not fear their intimidation, and do not be troubled, 15 but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always *being* ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence; 16 and keep a good conscience so that in the thing in which you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ will be put to shame. 17 For it is better, if God should will it so, that you suffer for doing what is right rather than for doing what is wrong."

Christians bears witness to a hostile political culture through their:

1. Example

Do good.

"13 Who is there to harm you if you prove zealous for what is good? . . . 16 and keep a good conscience so that in the thing in which you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ will be put to shame. 17 For it is better, if God should will it so, that you suffer for doing what is right rather than for doing what is wrong."

✓ When in Rome **DON'T** do as the Romans.

Christians bears witness to a hostile political culture through their:

2. Expectations

Do not be surprised if you suffer for doing good.

"14 But even if you should suffer for the sake of righteousness, you are blessed. And do not fear their intimidation, and do not be troubled, . . . 16 and "keep a good conscience so that in the thing in which you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ will be put to shame."

✓ Let **FAITH, HOPE, and LOVE** renew your fearful and troubled heart.

Christians bears witness to a hostile political culture through their:

2. Expectations

Do not be surprised if you suffer for doing good.

1 Peter 4:12

“¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you; ¹³ but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing,”

- ✓ **We hold two Kingdom cards in our hand - FORGIVENESS & FORBEARANCE - play them graciously and often.**

The Charlotte Observer

Father celebrates sons' brief lives, urges forgiveness for driver who caused wreck



October 2, 2006 Nickel Mines, Pennsylvania

Christians bear witness to a hostile political culture through their:

3. Explanation

Your response to mistreatment should invite an opportunity to share your hope.

“¹⁵ but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always *being* ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence;”

- ✓ **Live so as to radiate hope in Christ, being ready to TELL HIS STORY - with respect and sensitivity.**

Acts 17 (Paul in Athens)

“²² And Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, “Men of Athens, I observe that you are very religious in all respects. ²³ For while I was passing through and examining the objects of your worship, I also found an altar with this inscription, ‘TO AN UNKNOWN GOD.’ What therefore you worship in ignorance, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ The God who made the world and all things in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands; ²⁵ neither is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all life and breath and all things; ²⁶ and He made from one, every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined their appointed times, and the boundaries of their habitation, ²⁷ that they should seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; ²⁸ for in Him we live and move and exist, as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we also are His offspring.’”

Does my life invite questions?

1. Does my life raise questions in “hungry hearts”?
2. Do I see my response to failure and injustice to be more critical than my pain and disappointment?
3. Do I see personal injustice & suffering as an opportunity for my true hope to be revealed?
4. Am I prepared to give a sensitive response to those “hungry hearts” that have “ears to hear”?

**Start with a renewed commitment to Christ as Lord.
Be as passionate to understand as to be understood.
Clear your eyes to see as Jesus sees.
Look for opportunities every day to let your light shine.**

The Duggar Family of TLC's “19 Kids and Counting”



The lifestyle and response to failure and injustice of this family has caused our culture to ask about what makes them tick.