



Discussion Questions

Jesus Cares: Week One

1. *There is a lot of talk in today's world about what we as people should think and be concerned about in our culture. Additionally, there is much discussion and debate about the church. What do "Christians" think, believe, and care about really? What should our priorities be as followers of Jesus in society? In this series, we want to peel back the cultural noise, political commentary and cut through the polarizing debate to ask what Jesus cares about and what he would have us care about as his followers in this world.*

 - When you read that description of this series, what comes to mind?
 - What are you hoping for?
 - What questions do you have?
2. Jesus says this to his followers at the end of Matthew's Gospel: "Go and make disciples of all nations..." At Cedar Mill, we reflect these words by adopting this mission as a church – "Becoming like Jesus and making Him known".

 - How does understanding what Jesus cares about connect to the mission of the church?
3. Pastor Dave discussed **John 8:1-11** (a woman caught in adultery) & **Matthew 22:15-22** (paying taxes to Caesar) as examples of stories where Jesus shows more concern for some issues and less for others.

 - Do you agree that there are things Jesus cares more about and less about?
4. What other moments/teachings/stories from Jesus's life help you discern what He cares most about? Pastor Dave also said, "Our ideas about what Jesus cares about are more culture-driven than scripture-driven."

 - Do you think this is true, and how do you see it play out in both conservative & liberal Christians?
 - How does it play out in your life?

5. Our culture often functions with a paradigm that says: If I agree with you, I respect you & if I respect you, I accept you. Jesus seems to do the opposite. He accepts us by grace, respects us as people created in the image of God, and then works towards agreement with us.
 - Do you think this is true, and if so, how does it change how we care like Jesus in the world?