

Ekklessia part 8: Redefining the Win!

Pastor Rick Wagner – June 19, 2022

“Proximity breeds Empathy!”

John 13:33-35

John 17:20-21

The primary way in which people will see Jesus in us—Love and Unity!

“The Pandemic was an accelerant. “Take any trend—social, business, or personal and fast forward ten years.” –Scott Galloway, *Post Corona: From Crisis to Opportunity*

“When life is predictable, it’s natural to lose sight of what we value most, what we fear most. But when a Tsunami of uncertainty rolls in, things get real, real quick. Uncertainty does not alter our value system, it exposes it.” Andy Stanley, *Not In It to Win It*

It’s in the seasons of uncertainty that we discover what we value most!

1 Cor 12:24b-26 NLT

“Division”

John 17:21-22

The way of the Cross is the ultimate expression of losing, yet winning...

Jesus actually lost, on purpose, with a purpose.

“We have reduced our faith to a set of beliefs.”

When Christianity is reduced to a belief or set of beliefs, we lose our voice, and our distinctiveness to speak into culture.

Acts 2:42-47

Daniel 1:9

When the church reduces Jesus to just the role of forgiver of sins rather than also King of our lives, we open the door to lesser kings!

“Refusing to submit our lives over to the Jesus of the Gospels sets us up to be seduced to believe that leveraging, perfecting, and baptizing the tools and tactics used by the kingdoms of this world we can further the cause of Christ!” Andy Stanley, *Not in it to Win It!*

Jesus did not come to win--the way we "define" a win.

Redefining the Win

1 Corinthians 9:19

1 Corinthians 9:20-23

Paul believed God had done something new in the world, for the world, in spite of everything going around in the world!

Paul was a master at finding common ground with the Jews, Gentiles, Romans, and he never ever (just like Jesus) leveraged the Gospel or teachings of Jesus to further their agendas!

When the ekklesia becomes preoccupied with Saving America at the expense of saving Americans, it forsakes its mission.

Matthew 28:18-20

The moment our love and concern for our country takes precedence over our love for the people in our country, we are off mission.

Our commitment at EFC is to be sold out on the mission that Jesus gave his church—the Great Commission!

When winning replaces following, we are no longer following!

It's time to redefine the win!

What is most important to you?