



GOAT, PART 5: A BETTER WAY

So many people try to live with conflicting values, and it causes a great deal of stress. Life is hard and that's not a bad thing. Good things can actually come from hard times. However, there is a way to live and work that makes it easier to navigate those tough times and more importantly, there is a way that sets a great example for others to see. It is not the way of conflict, drama, division, outrage, or politics. It's the way of Jesus and his way is one of togetherness, unity, and the freedom that comes from serving. This is totally counter-cultural but it is revolutionary.

BIG IDEA: Life is so much better when we work together.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. In high school, who were two of your best friends? What was one quality about them that stands out to you?
2. What is the most stress-filled part of your life right now? What do you think makes it so stressful? What role does interpersonal-relationship play in that conflict?
3. *With your Bible or YouVersion, read Colossians 4:2-6*

4:2 Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart. 3 Pray for us, too, that God will give us many opportunities to speak about his mysterious plan concerning Christ. That is why I am here in chains. 4 Pray that I will proclaim this message as clearly as I should. 5 Live wisely among those who are not believers, and make the most of every opportunity. 6 Let your conversation be gracious and attractive[a] so that you will have the right response for everyone.

4. In living for Jesus, what role is played by prayer? By an alert mind? By open doors? By closed doors? What is "the right response" Paul is talking about?
5. What does it mean to live a wise, gracious, and attractive life? How would you rate your current life? Why?
6. Why is thankfulness such a key ingredient in a Christ-follower's life?
7. *With your Bible or YouVersion, read Colossians 3:18-4:1*
8. Which of those verses is the hardest for you to live out? Why? What would your life look like if you worked with others in your relationships instead of against them?

MOVING FORWARD

In what areas of your life are you fighting a "civil war"? Your marriage? Your parenting? Your job?

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

This week, be intentional about fighting for peace, choosing honor, and living wisely How can we as a group support each other in these areas?

