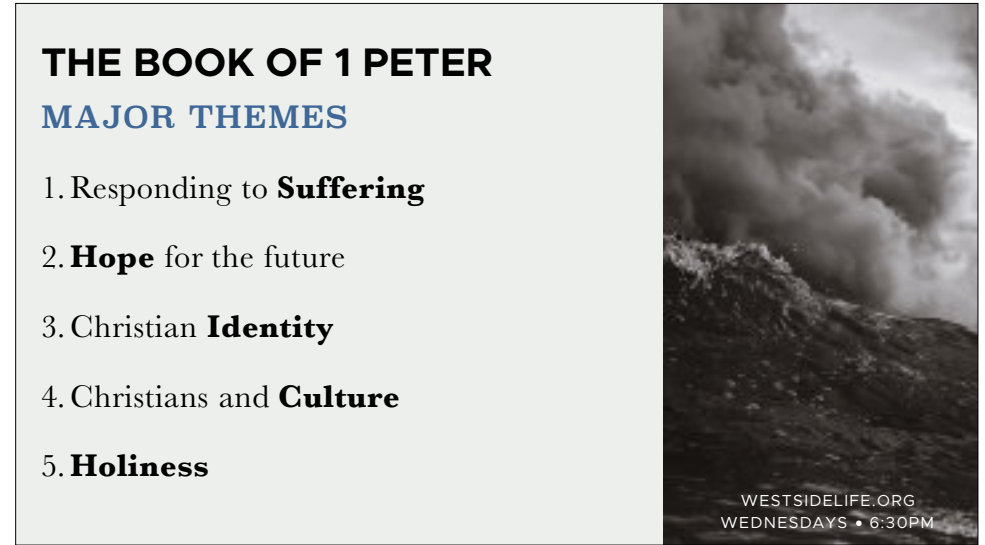
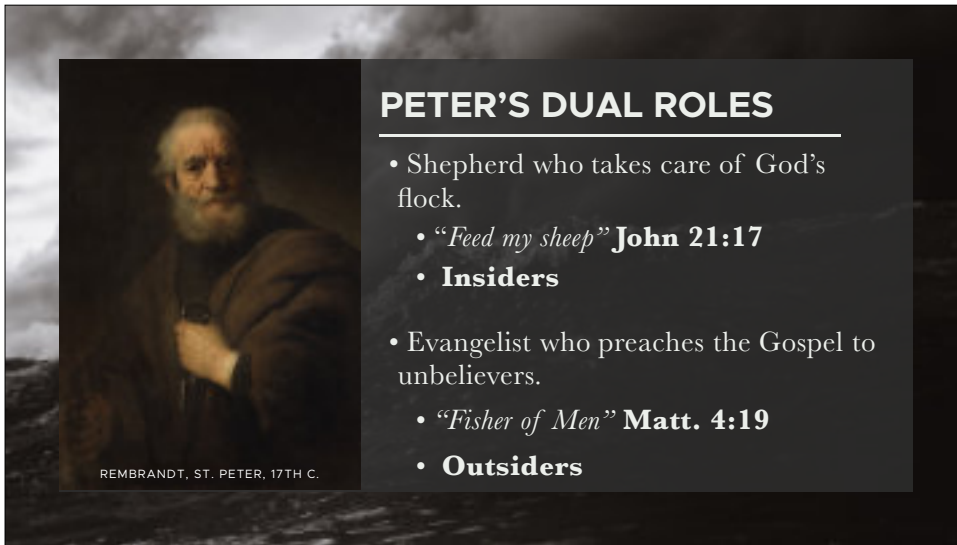


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2



3



4

FOUR THREATS TO THE GOSPEL MISSION



1.

THE ROMAN EMPIRE

Persecution



2.

THE PEOPLE IN SOCIETY

Perception



3.

INDIVIDUAL FAMILY UNITS

Pressure



4.

SPIRITUAL WAR ON CHRISTIANS

Power

5



1 PETER 2:11-3:7

2:11-17—Christians and Culture
2:18-21—Advice for Slaves
2:22-25—Jesus, The Suffering Servant
3:1-6—Advice for Wives
3:7—Advice for Husbands

REMBRANDT, ST. PETER, 17TH C.

6

1 PETER 2:11-12 (NIV)

11 Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. 12 Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.



7

“FOREIGNERS AND EXILES”

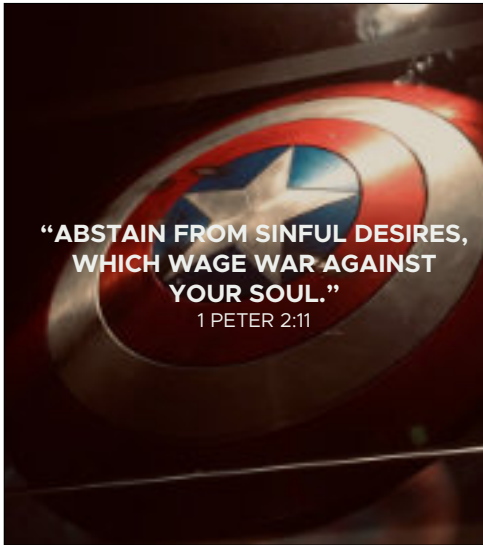
This world is not my home.

“To God’s elect, **exiles** scattered throughout the provinces...” 1 Peter 1:1

“Live out your time as **foreigners** here in reverent fear.” 1 Peter 1:17

Abraham: “I am a **foreigner** and **stranger** among you.” Genesis 23:4


8



**“ABSTAIN FROM SINFUL DESIRES,
WHICH WAGE WAR AGAINST
YOUR SOUL.”**
1 PETER 2:11

SPIRITUAL WAR
Ephesians 6:10-11
“10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and **in his mighty power.** 11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, **against the powers of this dark world** and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.”

9



**“ABSTAIN FROM SINFUL DESIRES,
WHICH WAGE WAR AGAINST
YOUR SOUL.”**
1 PETER 2:11

SPIRITUAL WAR
2 Corinthians 10:3-4
“3 For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. 4 The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, **they have divine power** to demolish strongholds.”

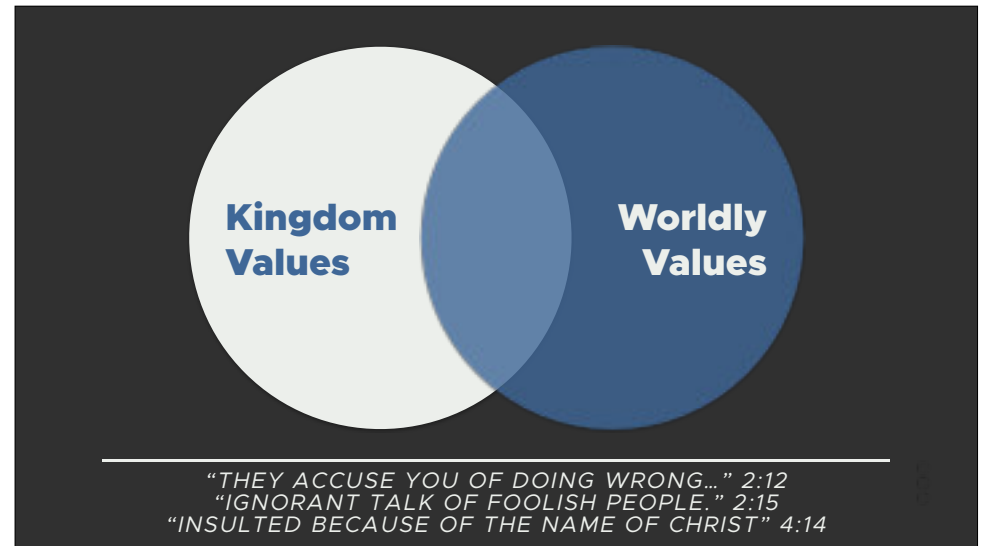
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**WHAT REPUTATION DOES THE
CHURCH HAVE IN SOCIETY?**

“Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.” 1 Peter 2:12

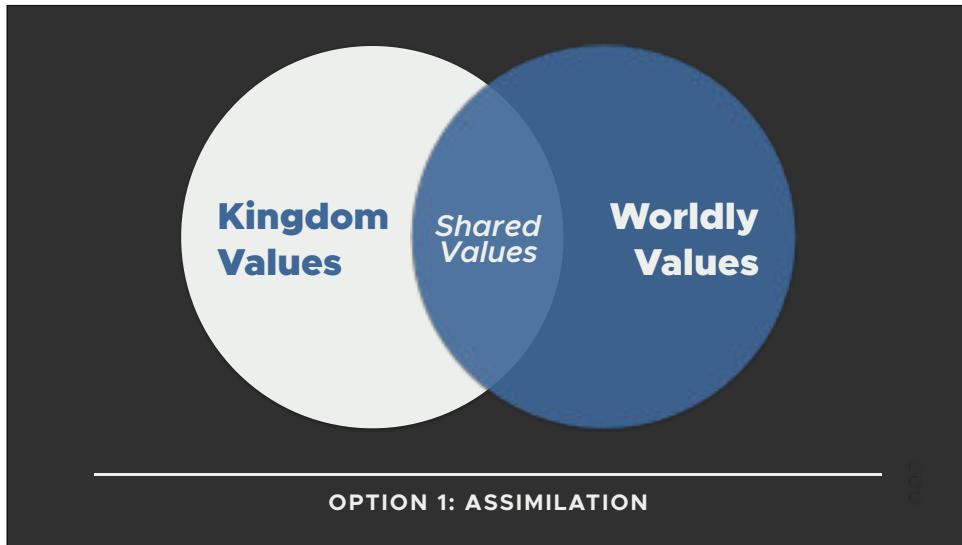
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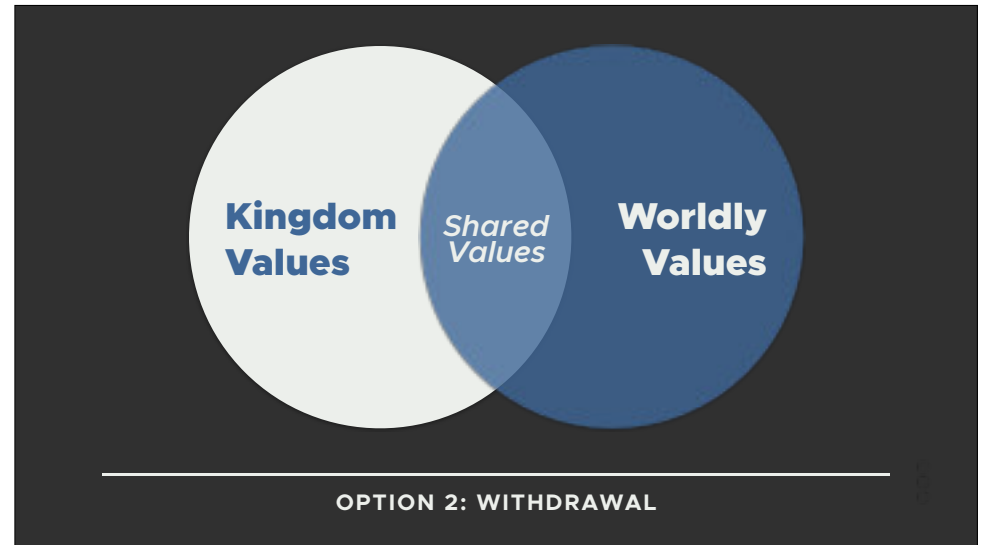
Kingdom Values **Worldly Values**

*“THEY ACCUSE YOU OF DOING WRONG...” 2:12
“IGNORANT TALK OF FOOLISH PEOPLE.” 2:15
“INSULTED BECAUSE OF THE NAME OF CHRIST” 4:14*

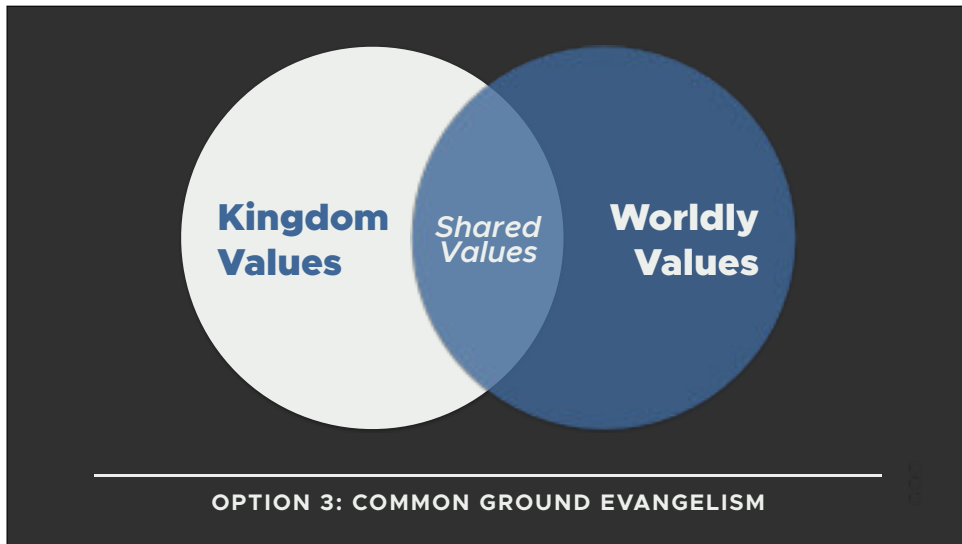
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13



14



15

SHARED VALUES

Overcoming our Worst Desires

“Self-control that enables one to abstain from carnal passions was highly valued by Greek moral philosophers and would have been recognized as virtuous behavior by all.”

Tranquility and Order in the Home:

Asitotle, Plutarch, Seneca, Dio Chrysostom

“All shared a common belief that order in the household, which they believed to be divinely ordained, was the constituent basis for a strong, orderly, and prosperous society.”

-Karen Jobes

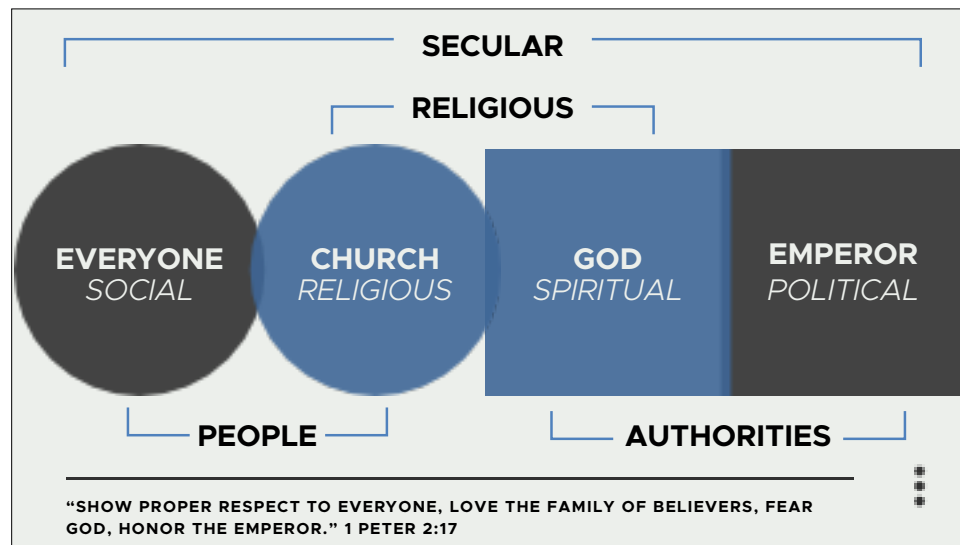
16

1 PETER 2:13-17 (NIV)

13 Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority, 14 or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right. 15 For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people. 16 Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God's slaves. 17 Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor.



17



18

1 PETER 2:18-21 (NIV)

18 **Slaves**, in reverent fear of God submit yourselves to your masters, not only to those who are good and considerate, but also to those who are harsh. 19 For it is commendable if someone bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because they are conscious of God. 20 But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. 21 To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.



19

20



ADVICE FOR CHRISTIAN SLAVES

1 PETER 2:18-21 (NIV)



WHY DIDN'T PETER CONDEMN SLAVERY?

1 PETER 2:18-21 (NIV)

21

HONOR FOR THE OPPRESSED

- “**Unjust** Suffering”
- “**Commendable** before God”
- “Christ suffered for **you**”

“The apostle Peter elevates the dignity and self-understanding of the least empowered people of that time, the slave first and then the wife. The Son of God has dignified even the lowliest in society by becoming like them in his incarnation.” -Karen Jobes

22



JESUS, THE SUFFERING SERVANT

1 PETER 2:22-25 (NIV)

23

1 PETER 2:22-25 (NIV)

22 “He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

23 When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.

24 “He himself bore our sins” in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; “by his wounds you have been healed.” 25 For “you were like sheep going astray,” but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

24

JESUS THE SUFFERING SERVANT

“Because Jesus suffered a death reserved for slaves under Roman law, his identity as Isaiah’s Suffering Servant (slave) is corroborated. Furthermore, this mode of death, which the Romans reserved for slaves and others lacking Roman citizenship, strengthens the identification between the plight of the “servants” Peter addresses in 2:18 and the Suffering Servant.” -Karen Jobes



25



ADVICE FOR CHRISTIAN WIVES

1 PETER 3:1-6 (NIV)



26

1 PETER 3:1-4 (NIV)

1 **Wives**, in the same way submit yourselves to your own husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives, 2 when they see the purity and reverence of your lives. 3 Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as elaborate hairstyles and the wearing of gold jewelry or fine clothes. 4 Rather, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God’s sight.



27

1 PETER 3:5-6 (NIV)

5 For this is the way the holy women of the past who put their hope in God used to adorn themselves. They submitted themselves to their own husbands, 6 like Sarah, who obeyed Abraham and called him her lord. You are her daughters if you do what is right and do not give way to fear.



28



ADVICE FOR CHRISTIAN HUSBANDS

1 PETER 3:7 (NIV)

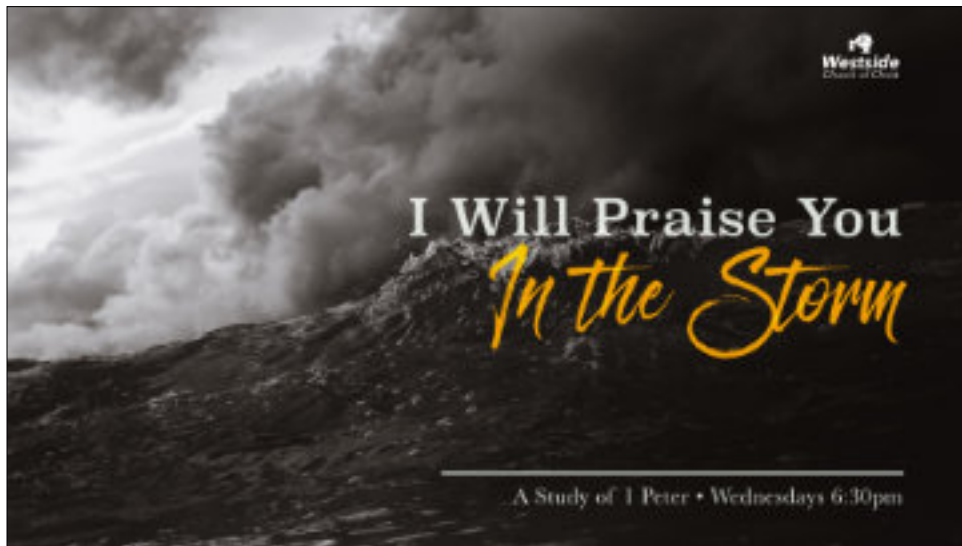
29

1 PETER 3:7 (NIV)

7 **Husbands**, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.



30



31