

Being a Christ-Follower in a Drifting Culture
Series: Spiritual Warfare
Meadowbrook Community Church
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Missiologist, Ed Stetzer, described the sense of unease among evangelicals with a sports metaphor: “We’ve lost our home field advantage.”

How should we respond as a follower of Jesus in a drifting culture?

Four Responses:

1. Some Accommodate Change
2. Some fiercely oppose change.
3. Some Withdraw to protect themselves
4. Some engage change with a Christ-like blend of truth, grace, and purpose.

Jesus calls us to be in the world but not of the world (John 17:16) ... and to be “salt and light” to the people around us. (Matthew 5:13-16)

Develop Convictional Kindness:

Kindness is an act of spiritual warfare.

The apostle Paul urged Timothy to “fight”...

- “wage the good warfare” (1 Timothy 1:18)
- “fight the good fight of the faith” (1 Timothy 6:12)
- “not be ashamed” (2 Timothy 1:8)
- “a good soldier of Christ Jesus” (2 Timothy 2:3)

Then Paul told Timothy ... *The Lord’s servant must not be quarrelsome, but kind to everyone.* 2 Timothy 2:24

This is not a break from fighting. This is how we fight ... with kindness.

Our warfare is not against mean-spirited unbelievers ... *the god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.* 2 Corinthians 4:4

... *it is God’s kindness that is intended to lead you to repentance.* Romans 2:4

God calls us to be salt in a decaying world and light in spiritual darkness.

- If we’re cowards - not salty and hiding our lights - we won’t impact others for Christ.
- If we’re obnoxious, demanding that people agree with us, we’ll certainly have an impact, but not the kind God wants us to have.
- To be salt and light, we must have equally radical commitments to love and truth, not one or the other. We love people dearly, listen intently and patiently get to know them, but we’re not afraid to talk about Jesus and His word.

Conclusion:

We may not always see where we are going, but we know the Way.

IT’S ONWARD ... WITH JESUS