

Dominant Culture and Minority Culture Perspectives in Reconciliation

Human Dignity

One of the fundamental wrestles between dominant culture and minority cultures continues to center on the Imago Dei (image of God).

Dominant cultures are afforded the privilege of shaping what it means to be full image bearers-that is- they get to define what makes someone worthy of value, acceptance, love, etc. as a human being. And that value, acceptance, love, etc. is often rooted in cultural norms rather than biblical ones.

Minority cultures and oppressed peoples in one way or another are always reacting to that definition either by moving toward that definition and trying to fit into its parameters, reacting against it and defining the Imago Dei (image of God) on their own terms or some combination of both.

How do Christians present to the world a more biblically faithful manifestation of the image of God?

By being a reconciled community around:

The scriptures

We need each other's eyes to see what we don't see.

Church Life

We need each other's experience and wisdom to know what we don't know

Public witness

We need each other's voice to cry out for what the Lord calls us cry out for

Questions

What minority voices are you reading from, listening to, or being disciplined by that are shaping your understanding of the scriptures?

What majority culture voices are you reading from, listening to, or being disciple by that are shaping your understanding of the scriptures?

Where is your church walking with the poor and minorities and how is that experience impacting your church and you as an individual? What are you learning?

What is the role of the church in the public arena? How can we speak to the issues of our day with the good news of the kingdom in the public square?