






	This Cultural Moment
 BIG IDEA	In times of cultural division and conflict, followers of Jesus must respond through three foundational values.
 ICE BREAKER	Share about a time when you witnessed someone showing unexpected kindness or grace during a tense or divisive situation. What impact did it have on you or others present?
 MAIN POINTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● JESUS FIRST - <i>Jesus isn't just part of your life, he is your life</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Our primary identity should be as citizens of heaven, not political parties, social classes, or ethnic groups ● PEOPLE ALWAYS - <i>We will give everyone the dignity God created them with</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Every person is made in the image of God (Genesis 1:27) ○ Jesus saw people, not labels - he knew names and stories ● MADE FOR MORE - <i>You were made to connect and make a difference</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The early church was a diverse melting pot unified by Kingdom values ○ Together we can be a light in the darkness
 DISCUSS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shan mentioned the gap between "cultural Christians" (63%) and "practicing Christians" (4%). What do you think creates this gap? Where do you see yourself on this spectrum? 2. The Rwanda illustration showed how tribal identity superseded Christian identity with tragic results. What identities compete with "Jesus first" in your own life? (Political party, career, social status, etc.) 3. Jesus saw Zacchaeus the person, not just "tax collector." The woman caught in adultery was a person with a story, not just her worst moment. Who in your life have you reduced to a label rather than seeing as a full person made in God's image? 4. Shan said "Don't fight for agreement. Fight for understanding." Share about someone whose views differ significantly from yours. How might you move toward understanding their story without necessarily agreeing with their position? 5. Shan mentioned people asking if the church would be a "safe place" for them regardless of their political views. What does it look like practically for a church to be truly welcoming to people across political and social divides? 6. Shan observed that we have "poverty of the soul" rather than material poverty. How can living out these three values address the spiritual poverty in our community?
 NEXT STEP	Identify one of the three values you need to focus on and grow in this week and share!
 SCRIPTURE	<p>Philippians 3:20 But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ.</p> <p>John 13:34-35 A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.</p>
	

NEXT WEEK
SNEAK PEAK

Join us next week and invite a friend as we continue the series on Values!

Questions or Feedback? Email Groups@CentralAZ.com