



WEEK3: JESUS IS LORD OF MY ALLEGIANCE

THIS WEEK'S FOCUS

Culture and Allegiance

Following Jesus means allowing Him to shape how we discern, engage, and respond to culture.

SERMON REWIND

This week continues our Lord Over All series by asking an important question:

Who has my ultimate allegiance?

Culture is powerful. It shapes what we value, what we celebrate, what we reject, what we normalize, and even what we assume is true. Sometimes culture can reflect beauty, creativity, justice, wisdom, and common grace. Other times, culture can pull us away from the way of Jesus.

Following Jesus does not mean that we blindly reject everything in culture but It also doesn't mean we blindly adopt everything culture says is good, right, or normal. If Jesus is Lord, then He becomes the authority by which we discern culture.

That means we learn to ask better questions. Not just, "What does my culture say?" or "What does my political side say?" or "What does everyone around me believe?" but rather "What does Jesus say about this?"

When Jesus is Lord of our allegiance, our identity in Him becomes greater than every other cultural, political, social, or

personal label we carry.

The invitation this week is to let Jesus have the final word over what we believe, what we value, and where our ultimate loyalty belongs.

KEY QUESTION

Who has my ultimate allegiance?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1

The Power of Culture

Culture has a way of shaping us, often without us noticing.

- a. What are some ways culture shapes what people value or believe?
- b. Why do you think it can be hard to recognize the ways culture is influencing us?

2

Reject, Receive, or Redeem

Following Jesus does not mean we blindly reject culture or blindly adopt it. We learn to discern it under Jesus' lordship.

- a. What are some parts of culture that can reflect goodness, creativity, justice, or beauty?
- b. What are some parts of culture that may need to be rejected or challenged by followers of Jesus?

3

When Jesus Disagrees With My Culture

Sometimes Jesus will affirm parts of our culture, and sometimes He will confront them.

- a. Why can it be difficult when Jesus disagrees with something our culture celebrates?
- b. How can we respond with humility when Jesus challenges something we have assumed is normal?

4

Competing Allegiances

Our cultural or political identity can sometimes compete with our identity in Christ.

- a. What are some signs or warning lights that a cultural, political, or personal identity may be becoming too central in our lives?
- b. How can we keep our identity in Jesus above every other label we carry?

If Jesus is Lord, He gets the final word over what we believe, value, and practice.

- a. What would it look like to ask, "What does Jesus say?" before reacting to cultural issues?
- b. Where

DIVE DEEPER

Reflection Questions: Culture is always forming us, but Jesus invites us to be formed by His Kingdom first.

- Where do you feel the strongest pull to let culture shape your beliefs, values, or reactions?
- Is there any place where your allegiance to Jesus is being challenged by another loyalty?

PRACTICAL APPLICATION

This week, practice surrendering your allegiance to Jesus by:

- Pausing before reacting to a cultural or political issue.
- Asking, "What does Jesus say?" before asking, "What do I think?"
- Identifying one area where Jesus may be inviting you to think, speak, or respond differently.

Ask the Holy Spirit to help you live with Jesus as your highest allegiance.

CLOSING THOUGHT

Who has my ultimate allegiance?

Let This week, invite Jesus to be Lord not only over what you believe, but over how you discern, respond, and represent Him in the world.