



Radical FAITH

MCA
The Church on the Hill

Sermon Notes

Key Verse

Jesus said, "My Kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place.

John 18:36

Excerpt from Schleithem Confession

"Finally it will be observed that it is not appropriate for a Christian to serve as a magistrate because of these points: The government magistracy is according to the flesh, but the Christians' is according to the Spirit; their houses and dwelling remain in this world, but the Christians' are in heaven; their citizenship is in this world, but the Christians' citizenship is in heaven; the weapons of their conflict and war are carnal and against the flesh only, but the Christians' weapons are spiritual, against the fortification of the devil. The worldlings are armed with steel and iron, but the Christians are armed with the armor of God, with truth, righteousness, peace, faith, salvation and the Word of God."

SEPARATION

March 16

Discussion Guide

Opening Thought

Throughout the Gospels, Jesus often references something called "The Kingdom of Heaven". Early Anabaptists wrestled with what it really meant to be a part of Christ's heavenly kingdom. They sought to understand how this eternal heavenly kingdom is called to interact with the kingdoms of this world. This led the Anabaptists to make several strong statements about the churches call to be "separate" from the world. Like the Anabaptists, many of us have wrestled with this tension we find in scripture between the Church and the world. Today we will have the opportunity to discuss these difficult questions together.

Ice Breaker

1. What is something you are passionate about?

Dig Deeper

1. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus give us a list of beatitudes that are to define the people of his kingdom (Matthew 5:3-11). Which of these stick out to you?
2. In verse 13 of of the same chapter, Jesus tells us that we as the Church are the salt of the earth. What does he mean by this?
3. The anabaptist's make some strong statements about how the government and the Church are to interact. What kind of reaction do you have towards these statements?
4. In the early church, and during the Early Anabaptist movement, many lived under the rule of a monarch. In the United States we live in a Democratic Republic where we are granted rights like voting... should this be taken into consideration when we think about how the church and government interact?
5. Should Christians care about the government?
6. Why might we be tempted to put our trust in human kings, rather than Christ our eternal king?
7. Is church membership important? What should church membership look like?
8. How do we live our lives in a way that showcases our loyalty to the Kingdom of God?