

One Church.

In Dialogue with the Bride of Christ

#TMHOneChurch 

Week 7: Mennonite Brethren with Mike Krause

The MB's – The BIC's Twin Brother?

- Just how close are we?
- HISTORY:
 - Protestant Reformation → Radical Reformation
 - Menno Simons (1496-1561)
 - Severe persecution from Catholics and Protestants
 - Persecution led to separationist living
 - Separationism led to legalism
- The need for an Anabaptist Reformation
- Emphasis on living out the Sermon on the Mount

A DIFFERENT TAKE ON – Lifestyle Evangelism

SOME CHRISTIANS: The Gospel is a message of rescue from the wrath of God that needs to be preached boldly.

OTHER CHRISTIANS: The Gospel is a message of grace and holiness that should be embodied in how we live.

The Gospel Proclaimed \longleftrightarrow The Gospel Embodied

LOOK TO THE BOOK – Being a Beatitude Believer

Matthew 5:13-16

SALT: The universally useful substance. The pocketknife of the ancient world

- Used in religious practice/sacrifice
- Ratify covenants
- Purifying agent
- Preservative
- Condiment
- Made lamps burn brighter and ovens bake hotter

NEXT WEEK – New series – Mind the Gap – with Christa Hesselink!



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Home Church Questions...

HANGOUT [Warming Up to the Topic]

1. Word Association Game: I say “Evangelism” and you say...?

HEAR [Listening to God through Scripture]

2. Read **Matthew 5:13-16** and **Colossians 4:2-6**.
 - a. What stands out to you as you read these passages through? What insights did you glean from Sunday’s message?
 - b. Let’s have a debate! Divide into two teams: One advocating *proclamation evangelism* (the Gospel is a message with specific content that must be properly proclaimed) and the other advocating *lifestyle evangelism* (the Gospel should be enfolded in our daily lives, so that people are moved toward faith in God by how we live). Key: Try to represent the extremes of each position. Use these passages of Scripture as your foundation for making your points. After a few minutes presenting your case, switch points of view and try again.
 - c. What about you? Where do you land on the spectrum? Are you more inclined toward proclamation or lifestyle evangelism? Are you satisfied with where you are on the spectrum, or do you see the need to challenge yourself toward change?

HUDDLE [Making It Personal and Praying Together]

3. How did you answer “2.c” above? Is there a specific relationship in your life where you need to grow in boldness to either talk verbally about your faith or make ethical choices that set you apart from others around you? What is a realistic goal you can set for yourself this week to grow in this area? Be specific and pray for each other.

Quotes...

Anabaptists of various sorts have been influenced to some degree by the teachings of Menno Simons (1496-1561). Menno Simons lived during the days of the Protestant Reformation and his followers became known as Mennonites.

Menno Simons was originally a Catholic priest, but upon his own study of the Bible, he came to identify with the new Radical Reformation – the Anabaptists.

Whosoever boasts that he is a Christian, the same must walk as Christ walked.
~ Menno Simons

For true evangelical faith cannot lie dormant; but manifests itself in all righteousness and works of love.
~ Menno Simons

True evangelical faith clothes the naked; feeds the hungry; consoles the afflicted; returns good for evil; serves those that injure it; prays for those that persecute it.
~ Menno Simons

Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.
~ Jesus