

Specific Questions: Text: Matthew 16:13-18

1. What are some examples you have seen that suggest we are moving into a Post-Christian era?
2. When you encounter those situations (personally, or through media) how do you feel? How do you respond?
3. Re-read Mt 16:24, also John 15:18-20, and 1Peter 3:14. Does typical teaching in American Christianity lead people to thinking they are exempt, or immune, from suffering for their faith? How does that compare to Scripture?
4. Consider these 3 worldviews:

Modernism 1880-1945: We can find truth and progress through reason

Post-modernism:1945-1990: Truth is relative, and progress is a story we tell

Post-Christian: 1960 - present: We live with Christian moral echoes, but without its supernatural framework.

What are 2 or 3 biblical concepts that are challenged in these views (e.g. the nature of 'truth')? How do you as a Christian adhere to biblical truth without living in 'hibernation'?

5. What keeps you hopeful in our current culture?

GENERAL QUESTIONS:

1. What new concept did you learn from this week's text?
2. Is there anything in the text that you don't understand?
3. How does this text challenge you to change? Is there anything standing in your way of making that change?