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When Issues Divide

There is not a single issue such as capital punishment, divorce, homosexuality, or politics that would find the people of Anona 100% in agreement. The Methodist motto is "think and let think." We Methodists are among the most broad-minded of Christians in our diversity. Sadly, the perception from the outside is that if you are a Christian you have a certain opinion on a social issue.

1st Step

Acts 10:28

Ephesians 1:4

Romans 3:22-24

Step In

Last week we learned when we attribute tragedy to the will, plan, and hand of God, we get it wrong. What new insights about tragic circumstances have you had as a result? This week we will be talking about homosexuality – a controversial topic with many differing opinions. As we discuss this in our groups, how can we show respect for opinions that seem in opposition to what we believe? What ground rules will help us to "speak

Step Up

People see the church as hypocritical or two-faced because of its stand on issues such as homosexuality, divorce, and capital punishment, causing them to turn away.

Read Acts 10:9-28. What does this passage say to us about God? What does it say to us about ourselves? How does it help us understand the viewpoint above?

Step Out

Adam Hamilton says that one of the things about Jesus that he loves, is that he consistently puts people before rules. What stories can you recall where Jesus demonstrated this example?

How does this understanding of Jesus help us as people of faith to have open minds, open hearts, and open doors even when divided?

What would we have to change to be more like Jesus?

Sermon Notes