

“Choosing Sides”  
Now What? Sermon Series  
November 20, 2016

*To embrace a stranger as our own.  
It's in our nature.*

Introduction: The longing in all of us across history is to be loved, protected, and secure especially when we feel vulnerable.

The top Google searches following the election include:

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.  
People across time have looked to g\_\_\_\_\_ to bring cohesiveness and security. Governments also increase taxes, restrict personal liberty, and create a military.

“Come, O God, and rule the world; all the nations are yours” –  
*Psalm 82:8*

I. The Question in Jesus' Day was “How Will Peace be Brought to Earth?”

Option 1: The z\_\_\_\_\_ decided to *revolt*. They intended to overthrow Rome using any means including violence.

Option 2: The *Essenes* decided to w\_\_\_\_\_.

Option 3: The S\_\_\_\_\_ decided to *assimilate*.



“What is true of us as individuals is true of us as a nation.”  
Adam Hamilton

II. Jesus' Answer is that All of us are to be \_\_\_\_\_ in Love!

Jesus comes to live in the world so that we “*may become c\_\_\_\_\_ one*” John 17:23.

Why? *So that the w\_\_\_\_\_ may know:*

1. God s\_\_\_\_\_ Jesus. 2. God \_\_\_\_\_ the entire world.

III. The Early Church Had to Decide How to Live with Differences

Acts 15:1-2, They had “*no small dissension and debate with them.*”

Acts 15:7-11, “\_\_\_\_\_ knows the human heart. We will be saved through the grace of the Lord \_\_\_\_\_.”

Action Steps: 1. P\_\_\_\_\_, 2. L\_\_\_\_\_ to different voices.

3. Show L\_\_\_\_\_ to those with whom we disagree.

Choose a Side: Galatians 5:22-26

Which one will win? \_\_\_\_\_

now what?  
A SERMON SERIES

Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one...

As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

“Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.”

John 17: 11, 21-23, 25-26



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