Treating ALL People with Respect

“Standing true in a post-truth, post-Christian society” series – principle 4
James 3:9-12

PROPOSITION: In a world where people are treated as commodities or as opponents, we will dignify all people as image bearers of God.

I. Our culture is flooded with hate, scorn and disrespect

A. People are treated as opponents

B. People are treated as commodities

II. Our choice of words as an example of dignifying all people as image bearers of God. James 3:9-12

A. Even sinful, corrupt humans bear something of God’s original image James 3:9b

B. We can choose words that heal or hurt James 3:9a; Deut 30:19

C. Our words represent who we really are James 3:10-12

D. Treat other humans as bearing the image of God James 3:9-12

III. Treating people as ones made in God’s image

A. Grace and truth

B. Challenge our unseen attitudes and potential prejudices

1. People are more than their immediate value physically (materialism)

2. People are more than their hostility towards us (enemies)

3. People are more than their actions (we are all sinners)

4. People are more than their “their group” (stereotype)

C. All people are worthy of dignity simply because they bear the unique image of God in them

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