

XAVIER COCCA EP1.

I WOULD SAY THAT DOUBTING IS A PART OF EVERY CHRISTIAN'S JOURNEY. IF IT'S NOT, I DON'T THINK YOU'RE BEING HONEST WITH YOURSELF.

IF YOU'VE WATCHED THE NEWS AT ALL DURING THE FIRST COUPLE WEEKS OF AUGUST, THEN YOU'LL REMEMBER THAT THERE WAS RISING TENSION BETWEEN THE ALT RIGHT. THESE DEMONSTRATORS CAUSED OUTRAGE ACROSS THE NATION BY USING OBSCENE LANGUAGE TO DESCRIBE MINORITIES, HOMOSEXUALS, AND PEOPLE OF OTHER FAITHS. HOWEVER, THE DEMONSTRATORS DIDN'T THINK THEY WERE DOING ANYTHING WRONG. THEY BELIEVED THAT THEY WERE CARRYING OUT GOD'S WILL BECAUSE THAT'S HOW THEY INTERPRETED THE BIBLE. AND THAT GOT ME THINKING, DOES THE BIBLE ACTUALLY TOLERATE THIS KIND OF VIOLENCE? SO I HEADED DOWN TO NORTHVIEW WHERE I TALKED TO YOUTH PASTOR ZACH ABOUT WHAT HIS VIEWS ARE TOWARDS THIS CONTROVERSIAL TOPIC.

THERE'S NO PLACE FOR THIS KIND OF DIVISIVENESS THAT I THINK I SEE IN A LOT OF PLACES. WE'RE PEOPLE WHO BELIEVE THAT EVERYONE IS MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD. YOU CAN'T MURDER SOMEONE BECAUSE THEY'RE MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD JUST LIKE YOU ARE.

SILENCE SO I HEADED DOWN TO NORTH YOU WHERE I TALK TO YOU PASTOR ZACH ABOUT WHAT HIS VIEWS ARE TOWARDS THIS CONTROVERSIAL TOPIC THERE'S NO PLACE FOR KIND OF THE DIVISIVENESS THAT I THINK I SEE IN A LOT OF PLACES WERE PEOPLE WHO BELIEVE THAT EVERYONE IS MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD YOU CAN'T MURDER SOMEBODY IF THEY'RE BECAUSE THEY'RE MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD JUST LIKE YOU ARE

AS OUR CONVERSATION STARTED GETTING DEEPER I KEPT THINKING BACK TO CHARLOTTESVILLE. I GOT THE IMPRESSION THAT NOT ALL CHRISTIANS ARE TOLERANT

TOWARDS OTHER FAITHS, AND BECAUSE NORTHVIEW IS A NON-DENOMINATIONAL CHURCH I WAS WONDERING HOW ZACH FELT ABOUT THE DIVERSITY IN THE COUNTRY.

WE'RE CALLED TO LOVE GOD AND LOVE OUR NEIGHBOR, AND THAT MEANS ARE HINDU NEIGHBOR THAT MEANS OUR MUSLIM NEIGHBOR OR BUDDHIST NEIGHBOR OR JEWISH NEIGHBOR, OR ATHEIST NEIGHBOR.

THAT'S JUST AT THE VERY HEART OF WHO WE ARE SO CHRISTIANS SHOULD BE I THINK THE TRENDSETTERS THE ABSOLUTE EXEMPLARS OF LOVING OUR NEIGHBORS WELL. JUST BECAUSE WE HAVE THE BEST RESOURCES DOESN'T MEAN WE SHOULD ACT AS LONE RANGERS. WE SHOULD ACTUALLY BE LEADING THE CHARGE IN FINDING CROSSOVER BETWEEN THE FAITHS AND I THINK WE CAN COEXIST, IT'S JUST GOING TO START WITH A LOT OF HUMILITY, AND EMPATHY. WHAT BY THE WAY I THINK THOSE ARE PROBABLY THE TWO BIGGEST THINGS THAT ARE LACKING RIGHT NOW IN OUR SOCIETY IS HUMILITY AND EMPATHY, IT'S THE UNWILLINGNESS TO ADMIT WHEN WE'RE WRONG, AND IT'S JUST THE ABSOLUTE UNWILLINGNESS TO TRY TO PUT OURSELVES IN THE SHOES OF SOMEBODY ELSE AND THAT'S A LETHAL COMBO AND THAT'S THE WRONG DIRECTION.

IN A 2014 SURVEY CONDUCTED ON ADULTS CITIZENS IN THE UNITED STATES, 22.8 % CONSIDERED THEMSELVES TO BE NON RELIGIOUS OR ATHEIST. THIS IS A GROWING PERCENTAGE COMPARED TO JUST 10 YEARS AGO, AND AFTER DOING SOME RESEARCH, I FOUND THAT MORE MORE MILLENNIALS ARE FRUSTRATED WITH THE CHURCH SO THEY DECIDE TO WALK AWAY FROM IT.

I THINK IF SOMEBODY'S VIEW TOWARDS CHRISTIANITY IS, HEY IF I BECOME A CHRISTIAN IF I BELIEVE IN GOD ALL MY PROBLEMS WILL GO AWAY AND NOTHING BAD WILL EVER HAPPEN TO ME, AND GOD WILL PROTECT ME FROM ALL THESE EVIL THINGS, AND LIKE I'LL MAKE LOTS OF MONEY, AND I'LL NEVER GET SICK AND LIKE; THE MOMENT THAT. I JUST THINK PEOPLE GOING THROUGH IT AND THEY KIND OF MAKE

THESE ULTIMATIVES WITH GOOD LIKE, ALRIGHT I'LL DO THIS IF YOU DON'T LET ANYTHING YOU KNOW IF MY LIFE BECOME SUPER EASY AND CONVENIENT AND COMFORTABLE, AND HONESTLY LIKE THAT'S NOT BEING A CHRISTIAN, THAT'S JUST BEING AN AMERICAN. LIKE WE JUST WANT COMFORT AND CONVENIENCE AND LIKE WE TRY TO PUT THAT INTO CHRISTIANITY, AND CHRISTIANITY SAYS IF YOU WANT TO YOU KNOW LIVE FOR CHRIST YOU MUST DENY YOURSELF. THAT MEANS LIKE YOU BASICALLY SAY NO TO EVERYTHING YOU WANT AND SAY YES TO EVERYTHING THAT GOD WANTS, AND IT'S SO COUNTER CULTURAL TO EVERYTHING THAT I THINK THE UNITED STATES IS ABOUT. WE'RE A VERY CONSUMERIST SOCIETY AND WE WANT TO PLEASE OURSELVES AND ONLY THAT AND YOU KNOW THE CHRISTIANITY SAYING, WE'RE CALLED TO PLEASE GOD AND PRAISE HIM AND SUBMIT TO HIM AND ACTUALLY DIED OF WHAT WE WANT. SO I THINK PEOPLE HAVE THIS PRECONCEIVED NOTION OF LIKE, THAT'S WHAT CHRISTIAN IS GOING TO BE AND THEN IT DOESN'T TURN OUT THAT WAY WELL THIS IS "BULLCRAP! I'M WALKING AWAY, I DON'T WANT ANY PART OF THIS"

THAT PROBABLY WASN'T THE MOST OF THE TRUE FORM OF CHRISTIANITY SO I THINK THAT'S ONE REASON THERE ARE OTHER THINGS I THINK I'M MORE SERIOUS IN THAT I GO BACK TO IF THEY'VE BEEN HURT BY A CHRISTIAN OR OR OR SOMEONE OF INFLUENCE AND MAYBE THEY THOUGHT THAT GOD, YOU KNOW MAYBE THEY PRAYED FOR SOMETHING AND THEY DIDN'T FIGHT GOD ANSWERED THEIR PRAYER. I THINK THAT COULD BE SOMETHING THAT YOU KNOW THAT YOU KNOW, "MY GRANDMOTHER HAD CANCER AND WE PRAYED FOR HER AND GOD DIDN'T MAKE HER BETTER, WELL MAYBE THE GOD DOESN'T EXIST"

AT THE END OF THE DAY MOST CHRISTIANS INCLUDING ZACK DO BELIEVE IN LOVING THY NEIGHBOR AND THEY ARE UNDERSTANDING OF OTHERS DECISIONS. AS A CHRISTIAN YOU SHOULD STRIVE FOR PEACE AND LOVE. THIS IS SOMETHING THAT IS

ACHIEVABLE ONLY IF WE ALL WORK TOWARDS IT. THIS HAS BEEN XAVIER COCCA.
MORE PODCASTS LIKE THIS CAN BE FOUND AT WHJE.COM