

Introduction

January 8, 2024





## What is Culture?

(Open Discussion)

### What is Culture?

### Standard Definition:

Culture is the collection of shared beliefs, values, behaviors, and ways of life of a group of people (can be regional or temporal). It can also refer to the material objects that are common to a group or society.



Language

Customs

Beliefs about roles and relationships

**Attire** 

Religion

**Expressive** 

art

Laws

Food

**Holidays** 

Habits















## Culture says...

Our modern standards and culture are solid foundations for:

- Our Behavior
- Our Beliefs
- Our Values
- Our Way of Thinking
- Our Society

# Culture Shift in Everyday Life: What's Good and What's Bad?

Substances	Marijuana	Coffee	Fentanyl	Cocaine
Sex	Wife/Husband	Consenting People	Boyfriend/Girlfriend	
Money	Saving all your money	Saving all your money Investing your Money	YOLO your money	
Time	Friends	Family	Helping Others	Bettering yourself





The earliest batches of Coca-Cola have 9mg of cocaine per glass.

1886

1888

1929

Candler's version of Coke has only 1/10th of this amount.

Coca-Cola stops using fresh coca leaves, reducing cocaine amounts in the drink.

Due to public pressure, all traces of cocaine are removed from Coke.

MAIN SYMPTOMS OF

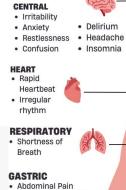
#### **CAFFEINE OVERDOSE**



Seeing flashes

VISUAL

**EAR** 



Nausea

Vomiting

blood)

#### Delirium



Ringing

 Seizures Trembling

Twitching

Overextension

URINARY Frequent Urination







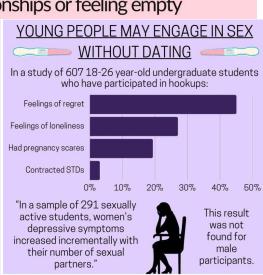


### **Casual Sex Drawbacks**

- Sexually transmitted infections (STIs)
- Unplanned pregnancy
- The economic cost of safe-sex practices
- Difficulty separating sex from romantic attachment
- Increased stress and anxiety
- Feeling used or low self-worth
- Unsatisfying relationships or feeling empty
- 1. Effect of sexual constraints: Increased sexual constraints, either pre or post-nuptial, always led to increased flourishing of a culture.

  Conversely, increased sexual freedom always led to the collapse of a culture three generations later.
- 2. Single most influential factor: Surprisingly, the data revealed that the single most important correlation with the flourishing of a culture was whether pre-nuptial chastity was required or not. It had a very significant effect either way.
- 3. Highest flourishing of culture: The most powerful combination was pre-nuptial chastity coupled with 'absolute monogamy'. Rationalist cultures that retained this combination for at least three generations exceeded all other cultures in every area, including literature, art, science, furniture, architecture, engineering, and agriculture. Only three out of the eighty-six cultures ever attained this level.

J.D. Unwin and Why Sexual Morality May be Far More Important than You Ever Thought





## Culture Shift in Everyday Life

Substances	Marijuana	Coffee	Fentanyl	Cocaine
Sex	Wife/Husbands	Consenting People (no limits)	Boyfriend/Girlfriend	
Money	Saving all your money	Saving all your money Investing your Money	YOLO your money	
Time	Friends	Family	Helping Others	Bettering yourself

From popular culture to subcultures, culture isn't clear on these









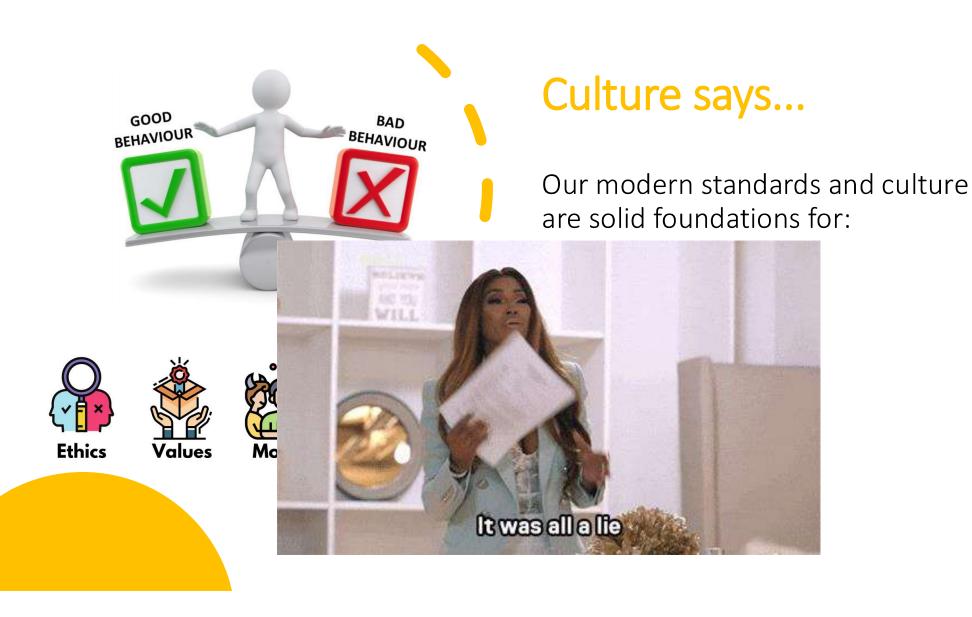




## Culture says...

Our modern standards and culture are solid foundations for:

- o Our Behavior
- o Our Beliefs
- Our Values
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- o Our Society



# Truth: Culture is fluid and changes from generation to generation

- Culture is constantly changing
- Laws are influenced by culture (2018 legislation to legalize weed)
- Impacts our social values and how we view everyday things like:
  - o Food
  - Medicine
  - Others around us







## **Culture Shock**

Culture in 2025:

- Drugs are okay
- Sex in all forms are okay as long as it is consensual (within relationships, outside marriages (open-marriages), casual hookups, friends with benefits, etc.)
- Grind until you reach the top because money is king
- Appearances are everything (aesthetics, social media, etc.)
- Religion is outdated and overly restrictive or religion can be whatever I need it to be

What will culture in 2026, 2027, 2037, 2097 say?

## Is Culture a Bad thing?

### **Answer: No**

### **Culture is important** because:

- It connects people
- Creates environments for innovation
- Helps shape who we are as people
- Creates diversity



However, regional, ethnic and modern culture cannot overrule your Christianity



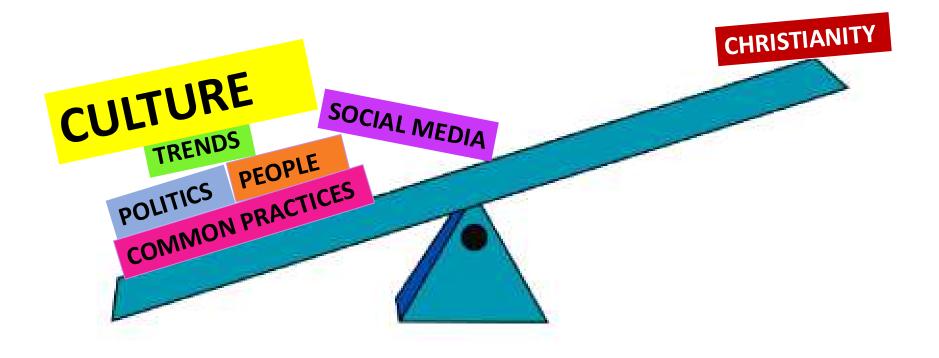
# Being led by Culture can be a Bad thing!

If culture, that is constantly changing, is our standard for living:

- We never have a standard that sticks
- We will never have a solid foundation for our values, our beliefs or our behaviors

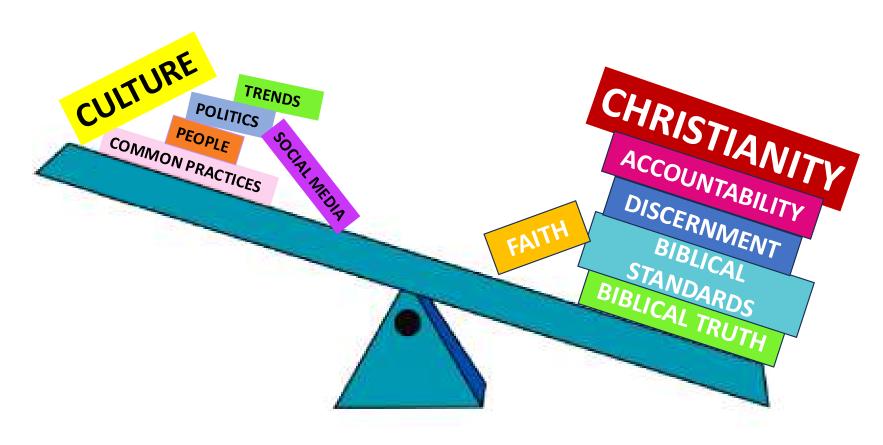
## Culture 's expectation of Christians

Be led by culture and you can have the Christianity on the side



## Counter Culture - Be led by Christ not Culture

### **Change the balance**



## **Christianity - Biblical Standards of Truth**

Substances	Proverbs 20:1	Wine is a mocker and beer a brawler; whoever is led astray by them is not wise.		
	Ephesians 5:18	Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.		
	Titus 2:3	Likewise, teach the older women to be reverent in the way they live, not to be slanderers or addicted to much wine, but to teach what is good		
Sex	1 Corinthians 6:18	Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body.		
	Hebrews 13:4	Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous.		
	1 Thessalonians 4:3-5	For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God		
Money	Hebrews 13:5	Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you""		
	Matthew 6:24	You cannot serve both God and money		
	1 Timothy 6:10	For the love of money is a root of all evil		
	Luke 12:15	Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions		
Time	James 4:13-15	Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit"— yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that."		
	Ephesians 5:15-17	Be very careful, then, how you live-not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil".		



# We counter culture by knowing the truth!

#### How do we find the truth?



- Reading our Bibles
- Studying our Bibles and other sources (don't be afraid to do some research)
- Talking to people who have a sound knowledge of the Bible
- Watch videos or listen to podcasts that will help you grow in your faith

# Session 2: Bible Reading Challenge

Prizes for the most consistent readers

Answer 2 questions after you read the bible each day:

- 1. What did I learn from this?
- What parts did I not understand or what questions did I have?



## Session 2: Bible Reading Challenge

#### **Rules:**

- Stay consistent and be intentional (it's a marathon not a race)
- Goal: Read 1 chapter per day (can be more or less but stay consistent)
- Track your reading and answer your2 questions every time you read

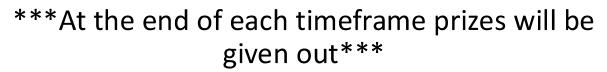
### **Three Parts**

- 1. Structured Reading (5 weeks: Jan 08 ends Feb 12 6:00 pm)
  - Reading through the book of Matthew (28 Chapters)
- 2. Free Read (5 weeks: Feb 12 ends Mar 19 6:00 pm)
  - Read whatever you want in the Bible (Old or New Testament)
- 3. Deeper Learning (4 weeks: Mar 19 ends Apr 09 6:00 pm)
  - Read whatever you want in the Bible (Old or New Testament)
  - Try to research the answers to your questions or what confused you from what you read

## Session 2: Bible Reading Challenge

### **Prize Levels:**

- 1. Read Every Single Day (Highest Prize)
- 2. Read 5 6 Times Per Week
- 3. Read 3 5 Times per week





## **OVERTIME**

1. How does culture affect us? (Prize: 4 candies)

2. Is culture bad?(Prize: 1 candy)

3. What does counter culture mean?(Prize: 4 candies)

4. How do we counter culture? (Prize: 2 candies)

5. When does the Bible Reading Challenge start? (1 candy)

