

## **Session 1: What is Cancel Culture?**

### **Week of June 5th**

During this week's session, you will be introduced to the term "Cancel Culture." Some of you may already be familiar with the term, and some may be hearing it for the first time. It is a term currently used in our society, and all Christians should be aware of its meaning.

In this session you will:

1. Learn the definition of "Cancel Culture."
2. Discuss whether the Christian biblical worldview is relevant.
3. Discuss how Christians feel when certain topics are being discussed.

### **View Video Presentation:**

Write a few take away notes you gleaned from the video.

## **Group Discussion**

### **Definition of Cancel Culture**

Cancel culture has come to mean different things to different audiences. According to Merriam-Webster, cancel culture is the mass withdrawal of one's support (usually of public figures and celebrities) as a way of expressing disapproval and exerting social pressure, thus "canceling out." Usually, this withdrawal stems from things that are not considered "socially acceptable." As Christians, this should raise concerns for us. First, many things that society feels are socially acceptable contradict the Biblical principles and morals upon which we stand. Second, society canceling out others has caused people to stand in a place of judgment and unforgiveness. For our small group studies, we want to address some of the topics in which the "canceling out" mentality has impacted or contradicted Christian belief. Our focus should center on: How Christians can show love and still stand on Biblical principles in a "cancel culture" society?

***Note: It's not whether "we" believe in "cancel culture;" it's how we address others who do.***

### **Points about the Cancel Culture**

1. Canceling is censoring or boycotting a group or business because someone is offended.
2. A person could lose their job because of their biblical belief or stance.
3. Cancel culture is a way to exert control over a world or people.
4. Cancel culture is a virus, spreading twisted-thinking and immeasurable self-righteousness.

5. **Traditional beliefs about life, family, and country are targeted and silenced.**
6. **What was considered mainstream is no longer mainstream.**
7. **Big Tech and Social Media platforms are deciding what's true and what's moral.**

1. **Are Christians being silenced? Do you feel when you are having discussions pertaining to abortion, salvation, sexual morality, Christianity, and even politics that you cannot express your biblical views? Do you feel that people feel threatened when you speak, or do you feel threatened when others speak on these issues?**

Cancel Culture is affecting Christian relationships with loved ones. Have you noticed that the people who are most dear to you have become strangers, not because of family discord, but because your views disagree with theirs? Do you feel shunned because of your beliefs?

**0. The culture is embracing a new world vision. However, Christians are still adhering to Biblical worldviews. The world we once lived in has changed.**

**Are you ready to address the world with your Christian views?**

**Read the following scriptures. How should Christians respond?**

- a. I Peter 3:15
- a. Ephesians 4:15
- a. Luke 9:26
- a. 2 Corinthians 5:20

**The temptation is to compromise for the sake of getting along with people and family**

**3. How do you define marriage, male and female? How do you respond to others who do not hold the Christian biblical version of marriage?**

**4. Read Acts 12:18 - In this "Cancel Culture," it's okay to live at peace with all men.**

**Read scriptures as it pertains to a Christians behavior in a Cancel Culture.**

- a. Proverbs 15:1
- a. Proverbs 18:24
- a. Matthew 17:27
- a. Acts 16:1-5

***A Christian's tone, humor, and affection honors God and sweetens our message.***

**Some issues Christians cannot compromise:**

1. The Divinity of Christ
2. The definition of marriage
3. Salvation, the way to God is through Jesus Christ