



*An initiative of WISCONSIN FAMILY COUNCIL*

Tuesday, July 14, 2020

## Disappointment V. Disengagement

Dear Pastor,

In the last six weeks the Supreme Court of the United States has issued two egregiously bad decisions. To be sure there were also some good ones, but the bad ones are going to be problematic for a long time as it relates to religious freedom issues and sanctity of life.

So what do we do? How do we respond? I will confess that I am tempted to have a variety of inappropriate—dare I say, unbiblical?—responses. But I am called to respond biblically and in faith.

So what does a biblical response look like when our elected and/or judicial authorities make horrible and disappointing decisions?

Here are a few thoughts, in no particular order of priority.

1. If anything we should be more committed than ever to praying for these men and women whose decisions impact so many areas of daily life and ministry. We have been exhorted to do just that (1 Tim. 2:1-4). How intentional and faithful are we in our personal and public prayers for these authorities?
2. I am reminded that evil never sleeps—the darkness never rests. May we as God's people be as rest-less in our efforts to share and stand for truth and the Gospel. "Be not weary in well-doing..." (Gal. 6:9).
3. Jesus said that in the world we would have tribulation. When bad, disappointing and even horrible things happen, we should never be overly shocked or surprised. Rather, Jesus said, we should be of good cheer, because He has overcome the world (Jn. 16:33).
4. We must resist the urge to disengage, to either give up or to just go along. Both are unbiblical responses. What if we decided to never witness again because a person we witnessed to rejected the message? What if, seemingly, no one appreciated your message last week? What is the right response to loss or failure? It may include a number of things, but it should never include disengagement. Our calling and privilege is to faithfully occupy until Jesus comes (Lk. 19:13).
5. Then, too, give thanks, because we are called to be people characterized by grateful hearts and attitudes (1 Thess. 5:18). We may not be thankful for everything, but in the midst of everything we can give thanks.



**By God's grace, may we never allow disappointment to result in disengagement.**

May you know God's wisdom and grace for faithfully shepherding your people during these challenging and often frustrating days.

In Christ,

Dave Lingle

WFC Church Ambassador



PS: Navigating current events is hard enough for adults, let alone for the youth in our churches! Share LEAD Online with the teens in your church today! For more information and to register for this summer's online camp, visit [www.LEADwi.org](http://www.LEADwi.org). (July 27-31 - 9am-2pm)

PPS: If you are in the Racine or Oostburg areas, PLEASE join us for our "2020 Vision: Contending for the Faith, Challenging the Culture" event, coming up on the 23rd and 30th respectively. You can find more details and online registration [HERE](#).

PPPS: I encourage you to read Biblical Principles for Political Engagement: Worldview, Issues and Voting, by David Closson. You can view and download the free PDF [HERE](#).