



# Here's *the* Mic

wk 3 - July 10

## Why Aren't Christians Talking About...?

### INTRODUCTION

It's week three of our *Here's the Mic* series as Pastor Jesse talks with Pastor Q of Hope City Church about the church in our current culture. They're tackling the prickly topics of how can the church help and reach people for Christ in a sinful society. God created culture, but the church has created ways that distort how we relate to it. Let's discover how we can effectively live for Christ in the midst of it all.

### DISCUSSION

1. Pasto Q commented, "Whoever has your ear is shaping your outlook." Evaluate who has your ear. Is it God? Social media? Health experts? Politicians? How easily are you persuaded, and what steps can you take to be sure you're listening to God?
2. Do you use the church to immerse yourself in culture or to isolate yourself from it? Describe situations when you've taken one or both of these paths and their outcomes. How can you keep from repeating any isolating types of behavior?
3. Pastor Jesse talked about church members making assumptions about others by their appearance. For example, "They must think like me because they look like me." Discuss what inaccurate assumptions you make and why.
4. **Read 2 Corinthians 5:20.** What are specific ways you can be an ambassador for Christ in our current culture and in your Little Iowa?

### TAKE ACTION

1. Pray for our church specifically to be an "above culture" church that neither creates a bomb shelter mentality (*against* culture) or indiscriminately embraces culture (*of* culture), which affirms everything with no delineation.
2. Step out of your comfort zone and have the uneasy conversation with others about the divisive topics we tend to avoid, **BUT** stay above the fray with humility, grace, and love. The church is meant to rescue people, not destroy them.
3. Volunteer with a [PLC local partner](#) and walk alongside those who may be searching for answers.

### RESOURCES

[The Church in Culture](#) by Matt Chandler on [RightNow Media](#)  
[Every Square Inch](#) by Dr. Bruce Riley Ashford  
[Christ and Culture](#) by H. Richard Niebuhr