



Looking at the Doctrine of Discovery through the Lens of Scripture

For those who profess faith in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, it may be helpful to look at the Doctrine of Discovery through the lens of scripture. The Bible has a lot to teach us about how to view one another and how to treat one another. Here are some readings and questions to get your conversation started:

1. Read: 2 Corinthians 5:16-20.

- a. How are we to see one another according to this passage?
- b. How does the Doctrine of Discovery conflict with this message?
- c. How does this new way of looking at one another promote true reconciliation?

2. Read: 1 Corinthians 12:14-21

- a. In what ways has the Doctrine of Discovery caused us to say we are not part of the body?



- b. In what ways has the Doctrine of Discovery caused us to exclude others from the body?
 - c. What changes do you think would need to happen for the body to be “one body”?
3. Read: Matthew 28:18-20
- a. This passage has often been used to biblically “defend” Doctrine of Discovery thoughts and actions. Having watched this film, what do you think/feel about this passage now?
 - b. How do you think that this passage has been used to promote what Primate Fred Hiltz called “spiritual arrogance” in the film?
 - c. What do you think Jesus had in mind when he said these words?
 - d. What would it look like to obey Jesus’ commission to spread the Gospel without attaching it to the Doctrine of Discovery and its ways of thinking and being?



4. Read: Acts 2:5-12

- a. What does the Doctrine of Discovery film have to say about language?
- b. What is significant about the many languages spoken at the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost?
- c. What does this story have to teach us about how God “shows up” in our world?

5. Read: Ephesians 2:14-17

- a. How does the life and death of Jesus affect ideas like the Doctrine of Discovery?
- b. Why is it so hard to be “one body” without all having to be the same?
- c. Jesus “proclaims peace” – what would that peace look like to you?
- d. Can there be peace without justice?