How to Deal With New and Difficult Topics:
Grace and Wisdom for Today’s Controversial Issues

The cultural temperature is raising and new issues – like Identity Politics, Critical Race Theory, Black Lives Matter, and Cancel Culture – provoke heated debates and often create new lines of conflict. Is there a way we, as Evangelicals, can deal with these issues with grace and wisdom and find the connection to the gospel?

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1. Introduction
2. New Terminology: *Identity Politics, Queer Theory, Critical Race Studies, Post-Colonial Studies, Gender Studies, Intersectionality, Cancel Culture, BLM, Woke …*
3. New Emotional Temperature
4. Not New Issues:
Oppression – Justice – Liberation – Freedom = Important Biblical Themes

1. Thinking Through Our Own Attitude
2. Knowing Human Nature: Self-deception and Blindness is a Default Position
3. Self-examination and Openness to Listen and Learn
4. Analysis in Three Steps: The Problem – The Cause – The Cure
5. Thinking Though the Issues
6. The Merge of Two Movements: Marxism and Postmodernism

1. Six Key Figures:
2. Karl Marx
3. Antonio Gramsci
4. Herbert Marcuse
5. Rudi Dutschke
6. Carol Hanisch
7. Kimberlé Crenshaw
8. Three Key Marxist Ideas:
9. Historical Necessity
10. Group Against Group
11. Rejection of the Whole System (“revolution”)

1. Three Key Postmodern Ideas
2. Deconstruction of Tradition and Hierarchies
3. Importance of Language
4. Subjectivity as the Only Possible Vantage Point

– "The philosophers have only interpreted the world, in various ways; the point is to
 change it." Karl Marx

1. Thinking Through a Gospel Perspective
2. The Gospel and Politics
3. Our Anger towards Oppression is Affirmed; We are Called to Fight Injustices
4. Politics is Important but the Personal is Not Political
5. Principles and Values from the Bible, but not a Specific Party Program
6. The Gospel and Sin and Salvation
7. A Much Deeper and Broader Analysis of our Problem
8. A Much Bigger Hope of Redemption
9. The Gospel and Current Trends
	1. Reform or Revolution?
	2. Shared Humanity or Unique Identity?
	3. Individual or Collective Responsibility?
	4. Reconciliation or Revenge?
	5. Freedom or Exclusion?