



THE **ELEPHANT** IN
the church

Preview

- Taboo for a reason
- Expository vs Topical
- Disagreement
- So why do it?



Ephesians 5:12-14

12 For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. 13 But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, 14 for anything that becomes visible is light.

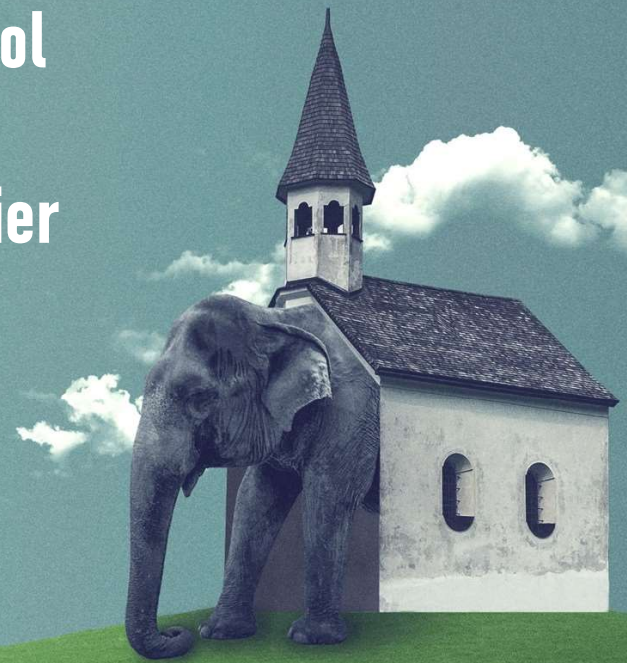
Preview

- Taboo for a reason
- Expository vs Topical
- Disagreement
- So why do it?
- These topics are important!



A Test

- What demographic makes up the vast majority of the prison system?
- What demographic consumes the most alcohol in a given year?
- What demographic claims a majority of top tier mathematicians?
- What demographic holds a majority of the worlds money?



A Test

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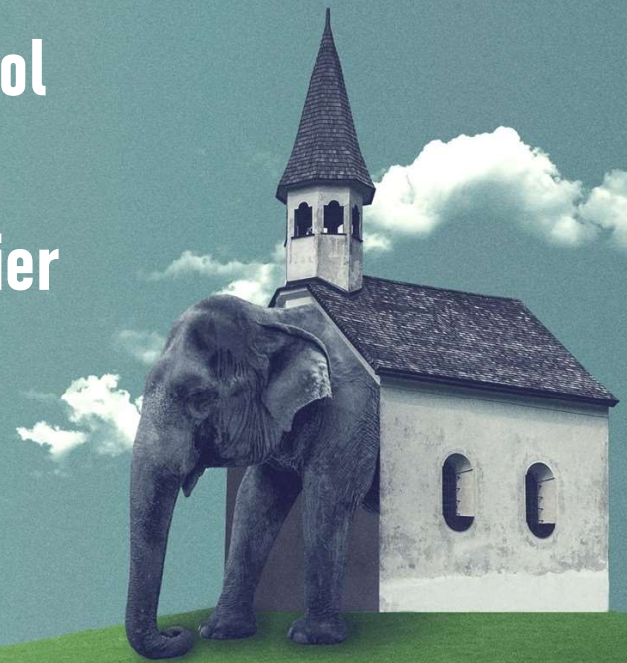
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- What demographic makes up the vast majority of the prison system? **Criminals!**
- What demographic consumes the most alcohol in a given year? **College Students!**



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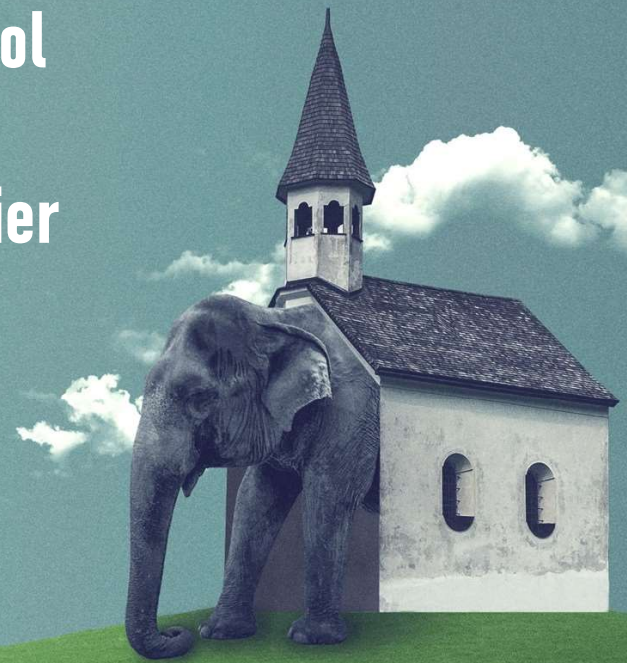
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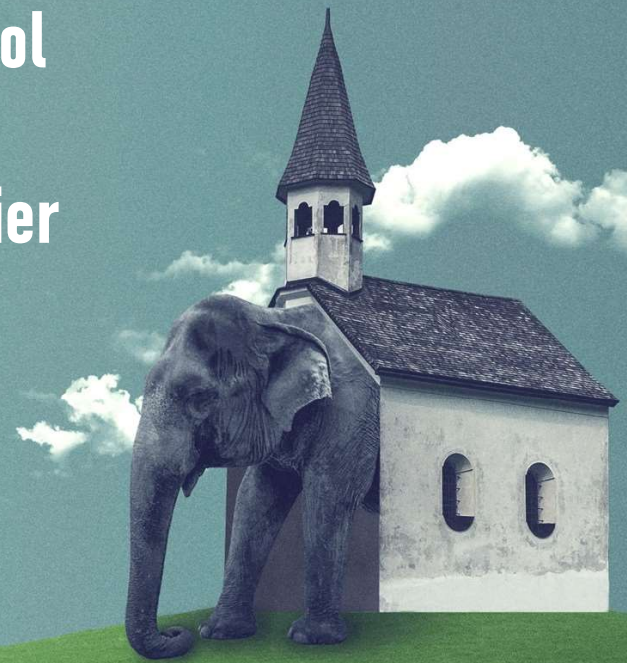
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- What demographic claims a majority of top tier mathematicians? **Engineers!**
- What demographic holds a majority of the worlds money? **Billionaires!**




A landscape featuring a vibrant green hill in the foreground. In the middle ground, a small white church with a dark, pointed steeple is visible, partially obscured by a semi-transparent dark blue rectangular box. The sky is a clear, light blue, with a single, fluffy white cloud positioned behind the church's steeple.

Race - the descendants of a common ancestor, a group sharing a common lineage

Genesis 1:27

**So God created man in his own image,
in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them.**

A landscape featuring a vibrant green hill in the foreground. In the distance, a church steeple with a dark, pointed roof is visible against a clear blue sky with a few white clouds. A semi-transparent dark blue rectangular box is centered over the image, containing white text.

Ethnicity - of or relating to large groups of people classed according to common physical traits, national, tribal, religious, linguistic, or cultural origin or background

1 Samuel 16:7

7 But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.”

Differences

- We all look different
- No amount of melanin or pigmentation or lack there of has ever made a choice
- Underneath we are all the same
- So why does ethnic conflict still exist?
- We will never defeat racism until we learn to see all people like Jesus does!



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1 John 3:1

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.

The background of the slide is a photograph of a landscape. It features rolling green hills in the foreground and middle ground, leading up to a clear, bright blue sky. The hills are covered in lush green grass, and the overall scene is peaceful and serene.

John 3:16

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

Acts 10:34-35

34 So Peter opened his mouth and said: “Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, 35 but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.

Romans 2:9-11

9 There will be tribulation and distress for every human being who does evil, the Jew first and also the Greek, 10 but glory and honor and peace for everyone who does good, the Jew first and also the Greek. 11 For God shows no partiality.

Acts 17:26-27

26 And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, 27 that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him.

Romans 3:22-24

22 the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus

Galatians 3:28

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Matthew 28:19-20

19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.

Revelation 7:9-10

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

So What?

- People are People
- God Loves People
- Do you love People?



TIME OF GIVING

Online giving is also available on our church website,
www.westmiddlebury.org, and on our Tithely app.

Offering boxes are
available at both entrances.

2 Corinthians 9:7

