

Sermon Outline

THINKING THEOLOGICALLY ABOUT THE ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER VOICE REFERENDUM | Geoff Lin

Readings: Matt 28:16-20; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Philippians 2:5-11

Q. Why am I speaking on this topic today?

What I will NOT be doing ...

1. Don't be apathetic

Lk 10:27 He answered, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind"; and, 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'"

3 practical ways to get informed:

- i. read the Uluru Statement from the Heart
- ii. read both the official "Yes" and "No" pamphlets
- iii. read thoughtful Christian responses both "for" and "against"

Michael Jensen on "yes": <https://au.thegospelcoalition.org/article/the-voice-a-christian-consideration/>

Sandy Grant on "no": <https://au.thegospelcoalition.org/article/human-equality-and-permanent-privilege-concerns-with-the-voice-proposal/>

2. Resolve to listen generously and to speak graciously

The most compelling argument for me personally to vote yes ...

The most compelling argument for me personally to vote no ...

3. Resist the urge to vote out of self-interest

"What's in it for me?" vs "What's in it for others?"

"What might I give up for the sake of those who are less fortunate than I am?"

Php 2:5 **In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:** 6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; 7 rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death – even death on a cross!

4. Remember that reconciliation with God matters more than reconciliation with each other

2 Cor 5:18 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: 19 that **God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them.** And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. 20 We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us.

- the vertical shapes and precedes the horizontal

Mt 28:16 Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. 17 When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. 18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and **make disciples of all nations,** baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Q. What are you praying for?

5. Give thanks that God is still sovereign

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