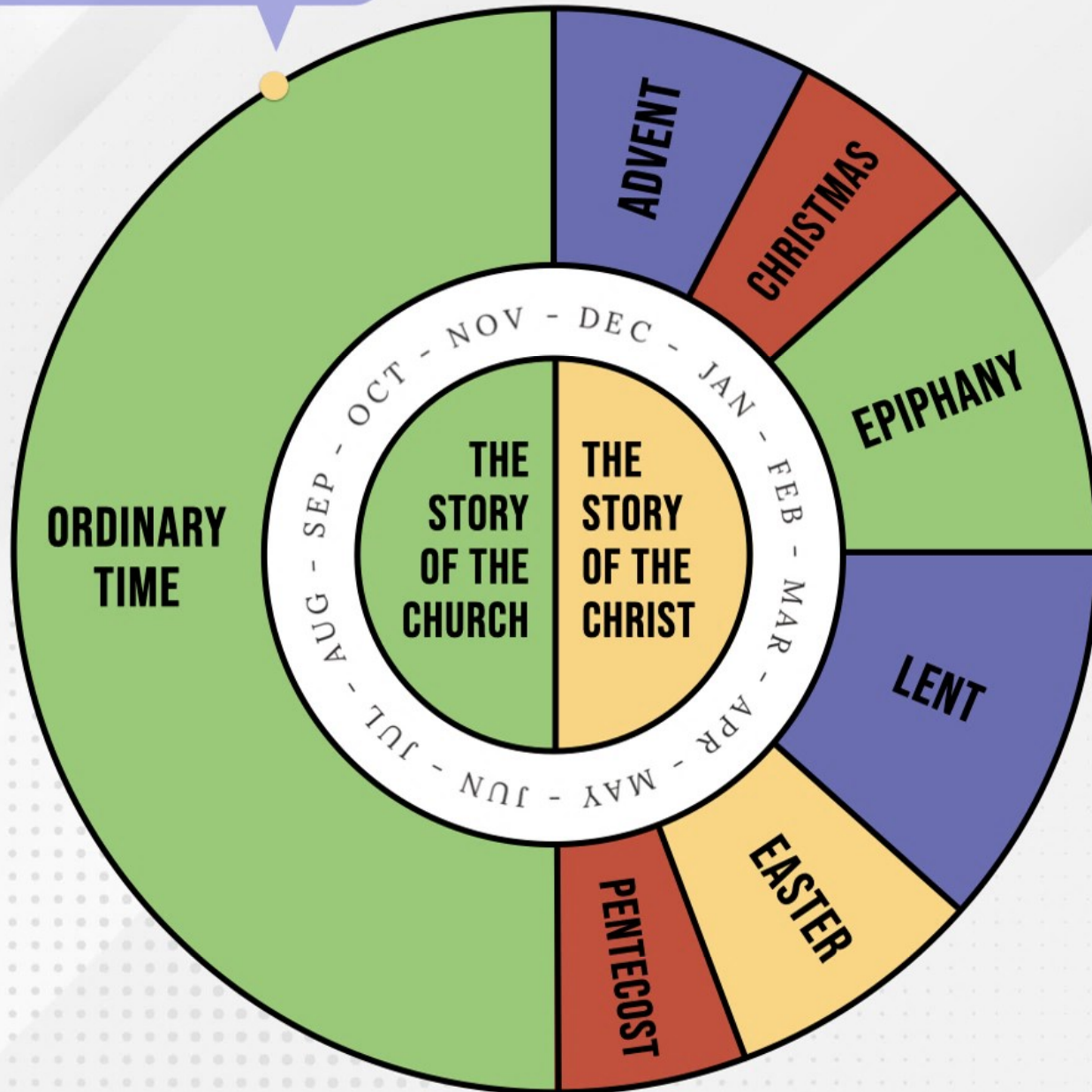




THE BOOK OF **J**  
**O** PHILIPPIANS  
**Y**

**WE ARE HERE**



## THE SEASONS OF THE CHRISTIAN CALENDAR

Advent: Anticipation

Christmas: Incarnation

Epiphany: Revelation

Lent: Crucifixion

Easter: Resurrection

Pentecost: Ascension

Ordinary Time: Mission



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## **PHILIPPIANS 2:19-30**

I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, that I also may be cheered when I receive news about you. I have no one else like him, who will show genuine concern for your welfare. For everyone looks out for their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ.

## **PHILIPPIANS 2:19-30**

But you know that Timothy has proved himself, because as a son with his father he has served with me in the work of the gospel. I hope, therefore, to send him as soon as I see how things go with me. And I am confident in the Lord that I myself will come soon.

## **PHILIPPIANS 2:19-30**

But I think it is necessary to send back to you Epaphroditus, my brother, co-worker and fellow soldier, who is also your messenger, whom you sent to take care of my needs. For he longs for all of you and is distressed because you heard he was ill.

## **PHILIPPIANS 2:19-30**

Indeed he was ill, and almost died. But God had mercy on him, and not on him only but also on me, to spare me sorrow upon sorrow. Therefore I am all the more eager to send him, so that when you see him again you may be glad and I may have less anxiety.

## **PHILIPPIANS 2:19-30**

So then, welcome him in the Lord with great joy, and honor people like him, because he almost died for the work of Christ. He risked his life to make up for the help you yourselves could not give me.





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# CHRIST & CULTURE, *Richard Niebuhr*

## **Christ AGAINST Culture: Isolationism**

- Following Christ means rejecting loyalty to "sinful" culture
- Church's primary identity is that of resisting cultural accommodation
- The Church and the world are completely incompatible with one another
- A "holy huddle" of Christians who shun those who are outside of their community

# CHRIST & CULTURE, *Richard Niebuhr*

## **Christ OF Culture:** Syncretism

- Uncritical merging of Jesus and the wider culture
- Erases or ignores any tension between accepted cultural practices and the call of obedience of Christ
- Faithfulness is fused with the status quo
- Christians are exemplary members of culture

# CHRIST & CULTURE, *Richard Niebuhr*

## **Christ ABOVE Culture: Antagonism**

- Recognizes differences between God's Kingdom and surrounding culture
- Believing that Christ is the only path to life, attempts to dominate opposing perspectives
- Church doesn't separate/condemn but tries to reclaim/rule
- Engagement tends to be public and political; trying to win culture by defeating evil

# CHRIST & CULTURE, *Richard Niebuhr*

## **Christ AND Culture IN PARADOX:** Compartmentalism

- Embraces a two-kingdom approach
- Church is not called to change the culture around them
- Redeems people from the larger culture but leaves them in it
- Because it's not attempting cultural reformation, faith becomes privatized

# CHRIST & CULTURE, *Richard Niebuhr*

## Christ **TRANSFORMER** of Culture: Renewalism

- A conversationist approach not only to individuals, but to the world we live in
- Every aspect of life should be transformed by Christ's Lordship
- Does not seek to dominate culture but demonstrate a more compelling ethic
- The world looks more like the Kingdom because of the presence of Christians in it



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