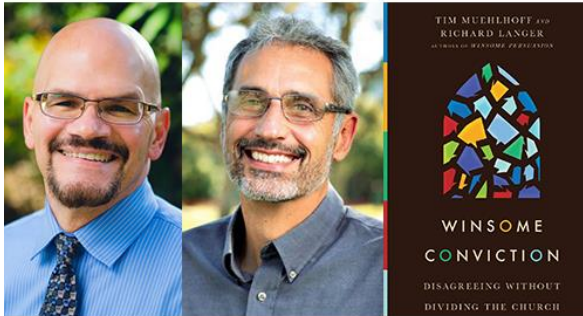




The Evangelical Covenant Church



Show Notes for  
Embrace Webinar #26

## Winsome Conviction: Disagreeing Without Dividing the Church

with Tim Muehlhoff and Richard Langer

### Embrace webinar #25 summary:

Tim Muehlhoff and Rich Langer, professors with Biola University and Talbot School of Theology, talk about [Winsome Conviction: Disagreeing Without Dividing the Church](https://covchurch.org/embrace/webinars/webinar-26-winsome-conviction-disagreeing-without-dividing-the-church/) through two disciplines: communication and theology. Full webinar and resources available at <https://covchurch.org/embrace/webinars/webinar-26-winsome-conviction-disagreeing-without-dividing-the-church/>

### Key takeaways and timestamps from the webinar:

(3:15–7:28): Tim and Rich wrote *Winsome Conviction* to equip Christians to **navigate difference by speaking in both truth and love.**

(7:29–11:35): **Argument culture** is pervasive and Christians are called to be counter-cultural.

(11:38–16:00): Winsomeness is not a relic of the past. Winsomeness is an umbrella term for **gentleness, kindness, and humility** which are commanded in Scripture.

(16:00–18:20): **There are two levels of communication: content and relational.** Christians are called to speak the truth (conviction) in love (relational). Scripturally, relational is equally as important as content.

(18:20–28:55): It's helpful to understand how you and others have come to convictions that are comprised of **confessional belief, moral mandate, core values, and personal moral convictions.**



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**(29:28-34:08):** While holding convictions there is a need to remain curious like a monkey rather than victorious like a rhino. **Cultivating curiosity will help you better understand others' convictions.**

**(34:30-39:10):** The difference between disputable and not disputable matters is **moral mandates** (Romans 14). With moral issues, we are to correct in gentleness in hopes of repentance (Galatians 6; 2 Timothy 2).

**(43:10-49:50):** Much of the New Testament assumes a power imbalance (Christians being persecuted, the role of women, etc.). And the call within the New Testament context towards those in power was to be gentle, kind, and humble. Within organizations, it's important to have a mechanism where people can be heard who have a dissenting conviction.

**(49:50-59:50):** It's important to make convictions clear. **Conflict handled properly will deepen relationships.** Disagreements can be healthy. The vision is unity, not unanimity.

Select resources mentioned:

[Winsome Conviction: Disagreeing Without Dividing the Church](#) By Tim Muehloff and Rich Langer

[The Winsome Conviction Project](#) With Biola University