

Main Street Church - Life Group Guide

Series: Living Proof - How Real Faith Shows Up In Real Life. 1-2-3 John.

Message 7: Truth Decay - 1 John 2:18-29

Speaker: Shawn Vandop

Date: June 14, 2026



Connect (25min)

- 1. Bucket List Experiences:** With the World Cup (of Football/Soccer) beginning this week – some might say that going to a World Cup match or final would be a “*Bucket List*” experience for them. There are different kinds of people, interests, and potential “*Bucket List*” experiences.
> **What would be 3 experiences on your “*Bucket List*”?**
e.g. travel experience, adventure, personal milestone, sporting event, concert...?
- 2. Blessings & Battles:** Share a *Blessing* and a *Battle* from your life this week. Give thanks to God and pray for another before engaging in the message discussion.

Message Discussion (50min)

1. Read [1 John 2:18-29](#). How are you encouraged and challenged by this passage?
2. Sunday’s message compared *spiritual drift* to *tooth decay*, something that usually happens slowly before the damage becomes visible.
 - a. Where have you seen this principle play out spiritually, either in your own life or in the lives of people around you?
 - b. What are some early warning signs that someone may be drifting spiritually?
3. The Apostle John warns that deception often comes not by rejecting Jesus, but by replacing Him with a *counterfeit version* of Jesus.
 - a. Why do you think it is tempting for people to create a version of Jesus who fits their preferences, opinions, or culture?
 - b. What parts of the real Jesus are people most tempted to remove or ignore today?
4. Pastor Shawn said: “*The real Jesus does not just affirm us. He transforms us.*”
 - a. Why do we often prefer affirmation over transformation?
 - b. What is one area where Jesus has challenged you rather than simply affirmed you?
5. Questions are not the enemy of faith, but John challenges us to consider where our questions are leading us.
 - a. How can we tell the difference between honestly wrestling with our faith and slowly drifting away from truth?
 - b. What practices or relationships help us process doubts in a healthy way?

- 6. A person can easily get caught up in a current and be pulled somewhere they never intended to go.**
- What are some “*currents*” in our culture today that subtly pull followers of Jesus away from Him?
 - What current do you personally have to be most intentional about resisting?
- 7. John’s answer to truth decay is one word: REMAIN.
(abide, stay, continue, make your home in Christ)**
- What is the difference between simply believing information about Jesus and remaining close to Jesus?
 - Which of the following do you need to strengthen most right now, and why?
 - Remain in the Word
 - Rely on the Spirit
 - Remain close to Jesus
- 8. The message ended with this question: “*Jesus, is there anywhere I have drifted?*”**
- If you honestly asked Jesus that question this week, what area of your life would He want to talk about?
 - What is one practical step you can take this week to move closer to Him this week, and throughout the summer?

Prayer (15min)

>> Set aside 15min to Pray together as a group. Break into groups of 3-4 people to enhance this time.

- In response to Sunday’s Scripture, message and our discussion – how can we PRAY for you?

>> *Praise - Presence - Purpose - Provision - Pardon - Protection*

>> Share your needs or focus and pray for one another.

- Who is one another person in your life that we can PRAY for together?

>> *Praise - Presence - Purpose - Provision - Pardon - Protection*

>> Share their name and need and pray for them together.