

True or False?
Gospel clarity in a sea of theological confusion.

American Christians are inconsistent.

	% who identify as Christians	% who attend worship
1970	92%	40-44%
1990	87%	40-44%
2000	80%	40-44%
2010	71%	40-44%
2020	65%	29-32%
2025	62%	29%

The decline in the % of Americans who attend worship 3-4 times a month:

1975	35%
2022	22%

It's true that with each younger generation of America, the percentage that identifies as Christian is smaller, but the % of Americans who attend worship has declined in every category. (Age, gender, education, marital status, etc.)

The average church attendance per church has declined dramatically in the last 25 years.

2000	137
2010	105
2025	65

American Christians are inconsistent in their worship attendance.

The State of Theology Survey revealed some encouraging statistics:

- 100% agree that the Bible is 100% accurate in all that it teaches.
- 98% agree that there is one true God in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
- 100% agree that only those who trust in Jesus Christ alone as their Savior receive God's free gift of eternal salvation.

Example 1: Inconsistency about who God is

98% agree that there is one true God in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

53% agree that the Holy Spirit is a force but is not a personal being.

Example 2: Inconsistency about salvation and what pleases God

100% agree that only those who trust in Jesus Christ alone as their Savior receive God's free gift of eternal salvation.

47% agree that God accepts the worship of all religions, including Christianity, Judaism, and Islam.

American Christians are inconsistent with the truth, and this matters more than attendance.

Part One: The Bible.

The Bible is 100% accurate in all that it teaches.

Evangelicals

95% Agree

1% Not sure

4% Disagree

All Survey Participants:

49% Agree

7% Not Sure

44% Disagree

The Bible is 100% accurate in all that it teaches. True.

Two truths about the Bible:

1. The Bible is inspired by the Holy Spirit and is the primary way that God reveals Himself to humanity.
2. The Bible is authoritative and the foundation for grounding our theological beliefs.

Truth #1: The Bible is inspired by the Holy Spirit and is the primary way that God reveals Himself to humanity,

The Bible isn't just a list of do's and don't's.

The Bible is God revealing Himself to humanity.

There are two categories for how God reveals Himself: General and Special

General Revelation:

God reveals himself through creation, history, and the moral law he has given to all people everywhere.

God does not reveal the way of salvation through general revelation, but he has written certain basic moral principles on the human heart. (Romans 2:12-15)

Special Revelation:

God reveals himself through signs and miracles, the words of the prophets and apostles, the person and work of Christ, and the writings of Christian Scripture.

Special revelation is addressed to humanity for the purpose of their redemption and ongoing relationship with God. And it is only by special revelation that one can learn how to live a godly life and thereby glorify him.

The process of inspiration is through the work of the Holy Spirit

The Bible, the product of inspiration is a completely trustworthy, full, and complete work of Scripture that contains the very words God intends.

God has spoken to us in words we can understand.

Truth #2: The Bible is authoritative and the foundation for our theological beliefs.

Why does it matter if we see the Bible as inspired and authoritative?

It is crucial to affirm biblical authority because without it we would have no basis to affirm that the God of the Bible has spoken definitively and objectively.

“Rightly understanding the Bible is foundational for building a Christian worldview.” George Guthrie

God’s purpose is for the revelation and truth of the Bible to find fulfillment in Jesus Christ.

How do we respond to the truth of the Bible?

1. Trust and obey Jesus as Lord and Savior
2. Trust and obey Jesus through knowing and following His Word
3. Trust and obey Jesus through sharing and teaching others His Word.