

Lost in Translation (Week 2)

February 22nd, 2026

“Reclaiming Truth”

John 18:37-38 (NIV84) *“You are a king, then!” said Pilate. Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.” “What is truth?” retorted Pilate...*

“WHAT IS TRUTH?”

Truth today:

- “Your truth is your truth; my truth is my truth.”
- What is right for you is right for you until what is right for you interferes with what is right for me.
- Just follow your heart.
- Subjective and opinion driven.

Today it is acceptable to say, “**this is true**” as long as it isn’t followed up with “**therefore, that is wrong.**”

Today’s Cultural and Societal Philosophies:

- **Relativism:** All truth is relative and that there is no such thing as absolute truth.
- **Skepticism:** Simply doubts all truth.
- **Postmodernism:** A philosophical movement that does not deny the existence of objective truth, but it denies that we can ever know it for sure.
- **Logical Positivism:** Absolute truth exists, but only in the area of science and not in matters of faith and religion.
- **Pluralism:** Says that all truth claims are equally valid.
- **Universalism:** Says that all roads lead to heaven.

Proverbs 14:12 (NIV84)

- Just because something seems right doesn’t make it true. Just because you believe something doesn’t make it true.

Why has it become this way?

- Romans 1:18-25 (NIV84)

What is TRUTH?

John 14:6 (NIV84) *Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.*

Truth is not a belief. TRUTH IS A PERSON.

We find that truth in the word of God we call the Bible. God has revealed who He is through the words of the Holy Spirit who inspired people to write it down, so we can know God personally and intimately.

John 17:17 (NLT) *Make them holy by your truth; teach them your word, which is truth.*

Why is truth important?

Romans 2:6-9 (NLT) *He will judge everyone according to what they have done. He will give eternal life to those who keep on doing good, seeking after the glory and honor and immortality that God offers. But He will pour out his anger and wrath on those who live for themselves, who refuse to obey the truth and instead live lives of wickedness.*

What do we do about it?

1. We have to know **The Truth**.
 - John 8:31-32 (NLT)
2. We have to live **The Truth**.
 - Formal truth is what I believe to be true or good or right. Functional truth is how I actually live it out.

- **Matthew 5:16 (NIV84)**

3. We have to speak **The Truth**.

- What is your position, what are you preaching, what are you practicing, and what is your posture? (Don't let your method speak louder than your message.) How we live out the truth with non-believers is different than with believers.
- **Ephesians 4:15a (NLT); 2 Timothy 2:23-26 (NIV84)**

Truth is not a belief. **TRUTH IS A PERSON!**

FOR SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION:

Opening Question: When it comes to “*truth*,” which do you find harder: Admitting you were wrong about something you were sure of, or telling someone you care about a hard truth they may not want to hear? Why?

Head Questions: Knowing Truth

- Where have you personally felt the cultural pressure of “*what’s true for you is true for you*”? How has that shaped the way you think about right and wrong?
- What is one specific way you can renew your mind this week with God’s Word (*time, method, or habit*) so that you’re measuring your thoughts by His “*level*” instead of your “*eyeball*”?

Heart Questions: Loving Truth

- Paul says love “*rejoices with the truth*.” **Be honest:** are there any areas where you know God’s truth, but your heart doesn’t really want to submit to it (*attitude, relationship, sexuality, forgiveness, money, etc.*)?
- What step of repentance or surrender is the Holy Spirit nudging your heart toward so that you move from suppressing truth to rejoicing in it?

Hands Questions: Serving in the Church

- In what ways can our church practically help each other “*stay plumb and level*” (*accountability, encouragement, correction*) as we serve?
- What is one concrete way you can use your gifts or time to serve in the church so that you’re not just knowing truth, but living and speaking it to others in love?

Feet Questions: Living Truth in Work, Home, and Hobbies

- Think about your normal week (*workplace, home, school, sports, hobbies*). Where is it hardest for you to live aligned with Jesus as the Truth (*e.g., honesty at work, purity online, words at home, attitudes in competition*)?
- What is one specific situation you can anticipate this week where you will intentionally choose to respond according to Scripture instead of culture or feelings?

Community Questions: Speaking the Truth in Love

- The sermon emphasized speaking the truth *in love* with the right posture. Who in your relational world (*neighbor, coworker, friend, family member*) may be “*caught in the trap*” of a lie, and how could you humbly and gently move toward them?
- Using the **4 P’s** (*Position, Practicing, Preaching, Posture*), what would it look like for you to have a truth-filled, loving conversation with that person in the next month? What’s your next step?

Sermon Series Resources:

