

January 24

I John 3:18 (NIV) Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

The news has been filled with stories about Trump and the transition to his presidency. Many of those stories have centered around the administration's relationship with the press, or, more accurately, their lack of a relationship. One such story made its way to Facebook. One of the President's "team" made a comment about an "alternative fact." This produced a Facebook discussion on whether that phrase is even a possibility. The discussion was quite interesting with some very interesting comments. Those discussing this issue concluded that an "alternative fact" was an impossibility because a fact was a fact and had no alternative.

A "fact" is defined as "the quality of being actual" or "something that has actual existence." "Alternative" is defined as "one of two or more possibilities." Thus, there cannot be an alternative to a fact. However, we deal in "alternative facts" on a regular basis. This discussion turned my attention to God's word. Jesus tells us that He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Since the truth consists of facts, there can be no alternative to the truth about Jesus Christ. Either the earth is round, or it is not. Either Trump won the election, or he did not. Either Jesus is the Son of God, or He is not. Trump's staffer's comment about "alternative facts" was a ridiculous statement. However, when speaking about Jesus and God's word, we often hear "alternative facts." God's Word is true, and that Word tells us that Jesus is the Son of the Living God, the Lamb of God Who takes away the sins of the world, the only way to salvation. That is a fact because that is the truth. Therefore, any other statement about Jesus is an "alternative fact." Jesus tells us that we are either living in the Truth, or we are living "alternative facts." Such a statement is very controversial as people will argue that Jesus is a matter of faith. However, our belief does not make something true.