



February 14th Discussion Guide

Colossians 3:1-17 - Fake News

This is a 7 week study on Colossians 3:1-17 and a social media poll about what people wanted to say goodbye to from the past year and say hello to in the New Year. Content for this discussion guide is based on the sermon so participation in weekly worship will enhance the conversation on this topic. If you want to watch the sermon it can be viewed at [Sermons Archive - Good Shepherd Church Naperville](#).

Prayer

Open your group in prayer. Pray about who you would become if God changed one thing in your heart each week of this series.

Icebreaker (10 min)

1. Share how you put the interest of others before you own this week.
2. Where do you go to get your news?

Discussion (50 min)

1. This week we will discuss saying Goodbye to Fake News and Hello to Truth. Make a quick list of all the news topics recently and in history that have opposing views or conspiracy theories. (ex. Vaccines, election, diets, wars, OJ Simpson)
(Don't debate them, just list them)

How do we navigate a world filled with fake news?

2. *(Answer: Know where our allegiance is)*
 - a. Read Phil 3:17-21, 2:9-11, John 14:6. How do we know who to believe or who to follow? Where is your citizenship?
 - b. Radiant Church by Tarabeth Leach: *“American Christians are confused about what is American and what is Christian and the desire to wed the two has thwarted the church’s mission and tarnished it’s witness. It seems most days American Christians are marked by today’s rulers’ agendas, plans and ideas more than they are marked by the Lamb. As the people of Christ, we are marked by the King and Baptized in Christ, not in Red, White and Blue.”* Who have you aligned yourself with?
3. *(Answer: Spend more time abiding in Christ)*
 - a. Read John 15:4-11, 8:31-32, Phil. 4:8 Do you spend more time online than in Scripture? More time consuming than creating?
 - b. Alexander Solzhenitsyn said *“You can resolve to live your life with integrity. Let your credo be this: Let the lie come into the world, let it even triumph. But not through me.”* Where can we turn to for truth? How can we stop participating in fake news?
4. *(Answer: Don't believe the lie. Look at the news through the lens of the Gospel)*
 - a. Read Jer. 17:9, John 18:36-38 and discuss which is true: “seeing is believing” or “believing is seeing”? How can we be witnesses of truth?
 - b. Nick Raineri said *“Don't let the news make it seem like Washington (Congress) is so divided”* How do we let the news guide what we believe?
5. **Application question:** What will you put off to put on truth? Will you take Pastor Glen’s 30-day challenge to turn off cable news and social media and turn to Scripture and other sources of truth?

Closing Prayer

Thank you, Jesus, for being Truth! Your Word is trustworthy! Show us areas where we are deceived and reveal truth to us. Help us put off what is hindering us from abiding in Your Peace and in Your Truth!