



WORLDVIEW

The Pursuit of Truth • Week 3: January 29



READING ASSIGNMENT

To prepare for this week's Life Group study and discussion, please read the following pages:

Faithfully Different – Natasha Crain

- Chapter 8, "Reaffirming Biblical Morality" (pp. 153-168)

Mama Bear Apologetics – Hillary Morgan Ferrer, General Editor

- Chapter 8, "The Truth is There is No Truth" (pp. 133-146) (Download this PDF from the Worldview Life Group Study Website)



GETTING STARTED

This weekend we continued our Worldview series by exploring how two of the most popular worldviews in our culture today (Naturalism and Postmodernism) approach the topic of truth, and how they compare with a Christian worldview in this important area.

As you begin the study, take a moment to pause and reflect on these verses:

*To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." **John 8:31-32***



GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER

If you could visit any fictional place (like Narnia, Middle Earth, the Death Star), where would you go, and why?



STUDY QUESTIONS

1. What were one or two of your biggest takeaways from this week's reading or the weekend message?
2. In the weekend message, Michael described how Naturalism, Postmodernism, and Theism approach the topic of truth.
 - a. Of these three worldviews, which do you think are most popular in our culture today?
 - b. Can you identify any ways that Naturalism or Postmodernism has influenced the way you think about truth? If so, explain.
3. Reread the following quote from *Mama Bear Apologetics* (p. 137):

Postmodernism did (and still does) feel like a liberation of sorts. With all the battles fought over truth, society saw truth as the bully, not the people supposedly wielding it.

In fact, truth had become synonymous with power and oppression. This is what psychologists might call “a conditioned response.” Like Pavlov’s dogs, which salivated at the sounds of a bell, people bristled upon hearing the word truth. It sounded like one more bully technique.

Like emancipated minors, the postmodernists proudly proclaimed to God, science, and authority, “You can’t tell us what to do anymore!” But as we all know, real life is more difficult to navigate without the safety of structure. Rules can be used to oppress, but they are also useful for establishing order.

In their efforts to prevent false ideas from slipping into society, postmodernists made it impossible for true ideas to take root.

- a. In this quote, the author is highlighting some of the reasons why postmodernism appeals to many people in our culture. But what are some of the downsides of giving up the belief in Truth with a capital “T”? What sorts of problems does this lead to?
4. Read the following passages and write down, for each passage, what *truth* is revealed to us as Christ-followers.
- John 1:14
 - John 7:14-17
 - John 14:6
 - John 14:10-11
 - John 16:12-13
 - John 17:17
 - John 18:37-38
- a. How does Jesus’ view of truth compare with those of Naturalism and Postmodernism?
5. In chapter 8 of *Faithfully Different*, Natasha Crain explains the stages a culture goes through when it is redefining some area of its morality (Redefinition, Normalization and Celebration). What are some examples of clear-cut sin in our culture that have passed through this process and are now considered normal, acceptable, or even good in our culture? Can you think of any examples of this within the church?
6. Reread the section “Putting Celebration in Biblical Perspective” on pages 165-167 in *Faithfully Different*. This section highlights **three ways** Christians should respond when our culture is celebrating sin.
- a. Based on these three suggested responses, what is one practical way you can respond to the celebration of sin in culture?



TOPICAL PRAYER

Prayer is an important part of each Life Group. Often those who are new to a Life Group are intimidated by praying aloud if they have never done it before. Others are so comfortable with prayer that they can take over the prayer time without meaning to. For these reasons, we suggest practicing topical prayer to help your group get comfortable praying together. Here are three basic guidelines:

- 1. Focus on a Single Topic/Request at a Time**
- 2. Pray Several Times Together**
- 3. Keep Requests/Prayers Short and Simple**