



Sermon Discussion Guide



Greater Love: Truth

1 John 2:18-27

Ray Cortese, September 12 & 13, 2015

Step 1: Reflect on the Text

Why do we do this first? We always want to start with the Bible. The goal is to meditate on the Word and read it with an ear sensitive to the Holy Spirit's promptings. Look for words or phrases that stand out through logic, repetition, layout, etc.

-  Read 1 John 2:18-27. What stood out to you? What did you find interesting and/or important? What was challenging or caused you to have questions?

Step 2: Reflect on the Sermon

INTRODUCTION

- 1 What is the status of truth in our culture? Why does truth even matter?
- 2 What was your one big/main takeaway from the service? If someone had arrived as everyone was leaving, and they stopped you in the parking lot and asked, "What was the sermon about?" what would you have said?

TRUTH: EXISTS

- 3 How do we know that truth exists apart from/outside of us?
- 4 What was the fundamental Christian truth that some in John's day had abandoned? Who refuses to acknowledge that same truth in our own day?
- 5 How have you heard others complete the following statement:
"I am a Christian, but ..."

- 6 Ray said that there is nothing better than watching people get the truth (or the Truth get them) and their lives start to be transformed because of it. When was the last time you saw someone transformed by the truth of the gospel?
- 7 In what ways have you been successful at sowing truth into your own mind or into the minds of your children?

TRUTH: REPRESSED

- 8 Ray said, “There is no such thing as an atheist.” Explain.
- 9 When do we typically see the innate knowledge of God in people leak out?
- 10 What did C.S. Lewis mean when he said, “Christianity is the true myth”?

TRUTH: PERSEVERES

- 11 The Holy Spirit is our helper, our advocate, and our counselor. Can you share a time when you sensed the real presence of the Holy Spirit working in your life?
- 12 How did Ray end the sermon by connecting it to communion? How were you moved or affected by partaking of the Supper?

Step 3: Final Reflections

- ✠ How has your understanding, appreciation, and love for Jesus and the gospel grown as a result of this study?
- ♥ In what areas of faith and practice are you feeling convicted by the Holy Spirit to act as a result of this study?