



#FOLLOW ME — BREAKING NEWS

Warm-Up Question:

Did anyone fast from any app or your screen this week as Brandon challenged us to last week? Discuss how you thought about doing that, whether you did or didn't.

PASSAGES: Prov. 17:24; 18:2; Phil. 4:5-7; Titus 3:1-9; 2 Tim. 4:3-4

I. BREAKING NEWS: OVERLOAD

- ▶ How much time do you spend watching or listening to the news each day? What emotions does this news often produce in you?
- ▶ Read Prov. 17:24 and CS Lewis's quote in the sidebar. Discuss some of the dangers of giving too much of our heart to world news.
- ▶ Read Phil. 4:5-9 & give applications to this subject you see from this passage.

II. BREAKING NEWS: POLARIZATION

- ▶ Read Prov. 18:2. How does the news do this? How can it polarize or divide?
- ▶ How do you feel watching the news has affected how you feel about people who don't believe what you do about politics or what's going on in the world?
- ▶ Titus 3:1-9 describes two different ways to live. Read it and describe each way. What words speak directly to our culture on this topic?
- ▶ What is the gospel (= "good news") from this passage, and how does it motivate us to live differently?

III. BREAKING NEWS: ALGORITHMS

- ▶ Read 2 Tim. 4:3-4. Why should we limit what information we read or pass on?

III. BREAKING NEWS: BREAKING FREE —> 3 Applications

- 1) Life Locally on Mission: What gifts/resources has God uniquely given you? What local need burdens you to get involved with?
- 2) We Need Grace: How does it affect how we watch the news knowing that God is a Sovereign King, that Jesus is alive and in control?
- 3) Pray for Healing: Take time to pray for the healing love of Jesus to come to broken people & broken places here in Citrus County

It is one of the evils of rapid diffusion of news that the sorrows of all the world come to us every morning. I think each village was meant to feel pity for its own sick and poor whom it can help and I doubt if it is the duty of any private person to fix his mind on ills which he cannot help. (This may even become an escape from the works of charity we really can do to those we know.) A great many people do now seem to think that the mere state of being worried is in itself meritorious. I don't think it is.
- C.S. Lewis

Prayer

- Pray for wisdom in how much to consume non-local news
- Pray for the healing love of Jesus to come to broken people and places in Citrus County around you



SEVEN RIVERS
C H U R C H

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Scriptures Used

Prov. 17:24 The discerning sets his face toward wisdom,
but the eyes of a fool are on the ends of the earth.

Phil. 4:5 Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; **6** do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. **7** And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Prov. 18:2 A fool takes no pleasure in understanding,
but only in expressing his opinion.

Titus 3:1 Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work, **2** to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people. **3** For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. **4** But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, **5** he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, **6** whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, **7** so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. **8** The saying is trustworthy, and I want you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works. These things are excellent and profitable for people. **9** But avoid foolish controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels about the law, for they are unprofitable and worthless.

2Tim. 4:3 For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, **4** and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.

