



## Sermon Discussion Guide

Feb. 22 & 23, 2025

“What is Truth... And Who Gets to Decide?”

[John 8:31-36](#)

Life's biggest questions deserve thoughtful answers. In this sermon series, we'll explore foundational truths about faith, God, and our place in his creation. Together, we'll seek biblical wisdom to navigate life's complexities, deepen our understanding, and strengthen our trust in the God who holds all answers.

### PRAY & CONNECT

Open in prayer and invite the Holy Spirit into your conversation. Ask God for wisdom and discernment and trust him to guide you. Take time to recap the message or view it on [hopeonline.tv](#). Did you have any ah-ha moments where you felt convicted, compelled, or inspired during the sermon? What's been on your mind this week? Have you been able to apply the message to your everyday life?

### GROW

#### Read [John 14:5-7](#) – “Jesus, the Way to the Father”

- How do people in today's culture define truth? How does this compare to what Jesus says in this passage?
- What does it mean that Jesus is the truth? Why do you think Jesus also calls himself the way and the life? How are those three connected?
- How does following Jesus as the truth influence your daily decisions? What are some ways that embracing Jesus as the truth has led to transformation in your life? How do you balance confidence in Jesus' truth with humility and love when sharing your faith with others?
- How can you help others recognize Jesus as the truth in a culture that promotes relativism?

#### Read [John 8:31-59](#) – “Jesus and Abraham”

- What do you think Jesus means when he says, “The truth will set you free”? How do people today seek freedom?
- How has Jesus' truth brought freedom in your own life? Why do you think Jesus connects knowing the truth with being his disciple?
- How does following Jesus free you from things that enslave people spiritually, emotionally, or mentally?
- How can you help others recognize the difference between worldly freedom and the freedom found in Christ?

#### Read [John 18:37-40](#) – “Jesus' Trial Before Pilate”

- Why do you think Pilate asks Jesus, “What is truth?” What are some modern versions of Pilate's question—ways people express doubt about absolute truth? If Jesus is the truth, how does that change the way we think about morality, purpose, and life?
- How does Jesus' response to Pilate challenge the way we approach truth? What happens when we try to define truth apart from God? How does Jesus' willingness to suffer rather than compromise the truth impact your view of faith?
- How does this passage challenge you to stand firm in truth even when it's unpopular?
- How should Christians respond when culture tries to redefine or distort truth?

#### Read [Ephesians 4:14-16](#) – “Unity in the Body”

- What are some examples of people being “tossed and blown about by every wind of new teaching” today?
- How do you discern between truth and deception in your faith journey? Why is it important that truth and love go together in Christian teaching? Have you ever had an experience where someone shared a hard truth with you in love?
- How can you model and teach others the balance of truth and grace in discipleship? What are the dangers of truth without love and love without truth? How do you avoid these extremes? How can you encourage a culture of truth and love in your small group, workplace, or church community?

### APPLY

Pick one of the applications below to put into practice this week ...

- **Recognize truth.** Take time this week to reflect on areas in your life where you may have unknowingly embraced cultural ideas over biblical truth. Read John 14:6 daily and ask God to reveal any ways you need to align more closely with his truth.
- **Speak truth in love.** Identify one conversation where you need to gently speak truth in love to someone this week. Whether it's encouraging a friend, correcting a false idea, or sharing the gospel, commit to sharing truth with grace.
- **Live out truth boldly.** Commit to a bold step of faith this week—whether it's standing firm in your beliefs despite opposition, sharing your testimony with someone, or engaging in a discussion where truth is needed.