



Insights – What is Truth? (2 John & 3 John)

Date: Sunday 12th June

Speaker: Mike Gowen (South Site), Jo Ramdas-Harsia (City Centre)

Key Verses: 2 John 2; John 14:6

Talk Summary:

Today we are increasingly confronted by the contradictions between internal reality/truth and external reality/truth. What is truth?

1. Truth is a person – Jesus. (John 14:6)
He says, “You will know the truth and the truth will set you free” (John 8:32)
2. Truth is our guide
 - Where do we get our morals from?
 - Where do we get our identity and worth from?
 - Love in the truth is practical – hospitality
3. We persevere in the truth
Not running ahead
The Hare and Tortoise
 - Obstacle 1: Deceivers, fake news
 - Obstacle 2: Cult of personality

There is a reward for persevering.

Worship

Worship is not just singing, it is thanking God for who he is and what he has done and is lived out through a life of trusting obedience. Discussing this together is an act of worship.

(Small group worship resources can be found at bvc.so/sgworship)

- What are you thankful for this week?
- Where has God been at work in your life?

- When have you taken risks in faith and obedience this week?

If you have a time of singing you can skip the above questions but please do ask this question each week:

- What has God been speaking to you about this week? (*Go around the group quickly don't spend a long time on it*)

Discussion Questions (choose some which are most relevant to your group)

- How do you experience communication with Jesus Christ? - subjective relationship, the Bible, friends, sermons, podcasts, ...?
- Jesus says, 'You will know the truth and the truth will set you free.' How have you experienced that in your life?
- What influences you in deciding what moral standards you will follow? Friends, society, social media, television, films, intuition, Bible, sermons, podcasts, ...? How positive or negative have these influences been?
- Where do you get your sense of worth and identity from? Friends, society, social media, television, films, intuition, Bible, sermons, podcasts, ...? How positive or negative have these influences been?
- How can you tell if somebody is a deceiver? How can you tell if news or information is real or fake? Does it matter?
- The reward for persevering is experiencing grace mercy and peace from God. How do you experience grace, mercy and peace in your life?

Witness - How would you share what you have learned with a non-church friend?

We want to be investing in authentic relationships with those who don't know Jesus yet and inviting them to anything where they might meet other Christians and Jesus. Pick one of the below each week:

- How would you share what you have learned with a non-church friend?
- What church events coming up would your friends appreciate an invitation to?
 - Upcoming Events (go to bvc.so/whats-on for details)
 - Encounter Night – 25th June