

## Weekly Study

### Truth in a Relative World | Doug Wekenman | August 14, 2022

*\*A note to leaders: there have been two additional questions added to the “grow” and “move” portions of the Weekly entitled ‘Dive Deeper’. This is designed for you to help guide your group into deeper relationship with Jesus and each other, and take an additional step for owning their relationship with Jesus throughout their week.*

## START

Go around and check in with your group with the following questions:

- What are you most looking forward to this week?
- What is the most impactful or challenging thing you learned during Sunday’s sermon?
- What did that thing teach you about God? About yourself?

## SHARE

On Sunday Doug continued our “Right Side Up” series with a conversation about truth in a relative world. The more we believe that truth is relative, the more unstable and anxious we are becoming — but when we come under ultimate Truth and submit our lives to God, we will experience true and lasting peace because God is a firm foundation for his people to stand on. God has the power to do whatever he wants, and what he chose to do was put on skin and bone, come into a dark world and do the unthinkable by allowing His son to be crucified so that we can live free. Truth is a loving Father waiting for his kids to come home. Letting God be the ultimate source of Truth is the only way to live truly free lives. This is the truth we are invited to align with.

## GROW

**Read Luke 22:36-38 MSG.**

We grow when we let Truth confront our traditions. It is tempting to filter Jesus through our cultural constructs and paradigms, the things we have been told throughout the course of our lives from our families, coworkers, and even church — but which traditions are actually true? The western world has been constructed in a way that is advanced in so many ways, and those aren’t necessarily bad, but it is incredibly different than the first-century Middle Eastern world that Jesus operated in. Because of that, we cannot interpret His word to us through our own limited understanding.

You grow when you let the truth of God's word challenge and confront your assumptions. What sort of growth would you experience if you prayed, "Test me, God, and see if there are any places that I am out of alignment."? All of us are wrong about things — whether it's God, politics, relationships or something else — but you can be confident that you are growing in maturity when you are able to acknowledge where you are wrong and allow the Holy Spirit to shine light on those places and renew your perspective with His truth.

- When was the last time God disagreed with you about an area in your life?
- What keeps you from wanting to listen when you know God is trying to correct you?
- *Dive Deeper:* If you connect with anyone in your group over similar answers, make a commitment to get together this week and talk about it. Find scripture that can help you as you learn how to take God at his word, even if you don't fully understand His perspective yet.

## M O V E

### Read Jeremiah 17:9.

Doug talked to us about the idea that truth has to come from one source. In a world that touts the idea of "your truth" and "my truth", it is interesting to consider that there are many points where humans would agree that certain things are inherently good or evil. You must follow the breadcrumbs to arrive at the conclusion that there is an invisible moral standard that we understand to be God, as the source of ultimate truth.

One area of our lives that can easily become our 'compass' is our feelings. The lie that we are continually fed is that our feelings are fact — but if that belief was true, it would have worked by now. As believers, we know that sin has turned the world upside down, including ourselves. If we believe this to be true, why would we want our emotions to be in the driver's seat? Living according to our feelings dehumanizes us; living from a place of recognizing that we were made in His image connects us to the ultimate power source.

- How often do you perceive that you are being driven by your feelings? What is one step you can take this week to balance those feelings with truth?
- What would it look like for you to come under the authority and sovereignty of a good God this week, remembering that you are small, yet very significant?

- *Dive Deeper:* Jump down to the “pray” section and split up into groups of no more than three to pray together.

## P R A Y

Spend some time sharing prayer requests. If you are in a co-ed group, consider breaking up into separate groups to share more freely.

- Ask the Holy Spirit to stir a desire to not forget your first love, Jesus, this week.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal places in your heart that you are living according to your truth instead of His truth. Meet with your group leader or a friend and dig out scriptural truth to help you replace any false beliefs you may be holding on to, and ask Him to fill you with peace and no shame as you partner with Him to renew your mind.