



### Week 3: Truth – I Peter 3:15

**Icebreaker:** When do you find it difficult to speak truth? When do you find it easy?

“...Have no fear of [those who revile you], nor be troubled, but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to **make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you**; yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame.” 1 Peter 3:14b-17

### Main Points:

1. Followers of Jesus are carriers of divine truth.
2. The world desperately needs divine truth.
3. How we approach and deliver this divine truth makes all the difference.

#### 1. Followers of Jesus are carriers of divine truth.

Divine Truth is:

- Personal — “Christ in you is the hope of Glory” Col 1:27
- Intellectual — 1 Cor 15
- Relational — “your life is now hidden...” Col 3:3

**Question 1:** Which truth (intellectual or relational) do you know more fully? Are you off balance? How can we keep these two knowledges of the truth balanced in our lives?

#### 2. The world desperately needs divine truth.

- To hell in a handbasket!
- Generational desire is *Purpose*

**Question 2:** Think of one specific individual in your sphere of influence. What do you think they are seeking most? How is Christ the answer?  
(For example: they may seem to be seeking money. But, is it the money or is it the security / status which comes with money?)

### 3. How we approach and deliver this divine truth makes all the difference.

Truth is HARD!

The bridge of relationship supports truth

“...in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to **make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you**; yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience...”

**Question 3:** When was a time you were confronted with a truth which was not what you believed? What convinced you to change your beliefs?

**Question 4:** Why is it helpful to focus on Jesus rather than the issues? Has that been your experience?

#### Other Questions:

Why is it important to avoid communicating arrogance when sharing divine truth? How can we know whether we are communicating divine truth in arrogance? How do we avoid arrogance?

Proverbs 15:28-29 says:

“The heart of the righteous ponders how to answer, but the mouth of the wicked pours out evil things. A prudent man conceals knowledge, but the heart of fools proclaims folly.”

What does it look like to “ponder how to answer”? Why is it advantageous to do so? Is there ever a time to answer quickly?