

**“WORLDVIEW IN FOCUS”**  
**Session 2: “How do we know what is true?”**  
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**January 16, 2011**

**INTRODUCTION**

*Jesus said:*

*"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." John 14:6 (NIV)*

*"The truth will set you free." John 8:32 (NIV)*

**I. TOLERANCE**

**Video interview: Charles Colson and Rick Warren**

What is Truth? Does it matter?

How is “tolerance” defined today as compared to the past?

Society pressures us to be non-judgmental and not to offend others: How can this be handled?

**For Group Reflection:**

**Q: Is it possible to be tolerant and articulate truth at the same time? How?**

**Q: What are some of the implications you have observed of living a life without truth?**

## II. HOW DO WE KNOW WHAT'S TRUE?

### Video Interview: Charles Colson and Rick Warren

NOTES FROM INTERVIEW: Some key ways to know truth:

#### 1. THROUGH CONSCIENCE (a way to determine moral truth)

*Some people naturally obey God's commands, even though they don't have the Law. This proves that the conscience is like a law written in the human heart. And it will show whether we are forgiven or condemned." Rom. 2:14-15 (CEV)*

*"The Lord gave us mind and conscience; we cannot hide from ourselves." Prov. 20:27 (TEV)*

*"Fools will believe anything, but the wise think about what they do." Pr. 14:15 (NCV)*

*"... the Father will give you another Helper, who will stay with you forever. He is the Spirit, who reveals the truth about God." John 14:16-17 (TEV)*

Define: Rationalize

#### 2. THROUGH THE BIBLE

*"All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It straightens us out and teaches us to do what is right." 2 Tim. 3:16 (NLT)*

*"Anyone who examines this evidence will come to stake his life on this: that God Himself is the truth." John 3:33 (Mes)*

### 3. THROUGH CREATION OR NATURE

*“For the creation of the world God's invisible qualities – His eternal power and divine nature – have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.” Rom 1:20 (NIV)*

*“The basic reality of God is plain enough. Open your eyes and there it is!”  
Rom. 1:19 (Mes)*

#### **For Group Reflection:**

**Q: In what ways are these difficult to explain to a skeptic? And which have you found to be most convincing?**

**Q: What are some ways where you have seen relativists act as if there is truth?**

*“Let everything you do reflect your love of the truth and the fact that you are in dead earnest about it.” Titus 2:7b (LB)*

#### **For Personal Reflection:**

- a. Where do you see people advocating the idea that truth is relative, that different people can have different truths?

b. In what situations do you find it most difficult to combat moral relativism? What is your approach?

c. Are there parts of the Bible that you have trouble believing that are true?

Coming up:

January 23 The Impact of “the Enlightenment” (in the 1600-1700s)

January 30 The History of Humanism

February 6 Where did we come from?

With more to follow in coming weeks!

The audio and notes for this and previous sessions of this series are available at [www.sequimcommunitychurch.org](http://www.sequimcommunitychurch.org) in the Sunday Seminar section