



Asking questions is an act of faith. Many people today are raising serious doubts about God, the Bible, and Christian beliefs. What if, instead of feeling threatened by our critics, Christians addressed the skeptic's questions as the beginning of a potentially life-changing journey? Join us as we wrestle with - and answer - some of the most profound questions that people are asking about faith today!

Group Discussion Guide: April 14

Opening Question - Let's begin with everybody's favorite icebreaker game: *2 Truths and a Lie*. Each person in the group should think of two interesting things about themselves that are TRUE and fabricate one LIE as well. After each person shares their "three things", the rest of the group can try to guess which one is the lie.

We're going to be thinking and talking about TRUTH today. Try and think of something that you once believed to be true, but you no longer do. Write about it here, and if you're comfortable, share it with your group.

A recent Gallup poll reported that 2 out of 3 Americans believe *there is no such thing as absolute truth*. Why do you think belief in the concept of objective truth is on the decline today, and what might some of the consequences of this sort of *relativism* be?

Read John 18:28-38. What do we know about Pontius Pilate?

What is so extraordinary about his three-word question, "What is truth?" What might have motivated a man like Pontius Pilate to ask such a question?

Have you ever been in a similar head-space as Pilate was in this story - conflicted and confused about even an elementary concept like *truth*? If not,

perhaps you've known someone who has. How do otherwise intelligent people wind up denying the obvious, common-sense reality of truth itself? This is where last week's *SALT* acronym may come in handy. As a reminder, the purpose of this series isn't simply to provide Christians with factual talking points, but to equip us to have more heartfelt conversations with unbelievers about God. Last week we learned that, in these conversations, it can be helpful to remember to:

S. SHOW UP!

A. ASK QUESTIONS & LISTEN!

L. LIFT THEM UP IN PRAYER!

T. TELL YOUR STORY!

Oftentimes, when we take the time to show up, ask questions, and listen, people will share with us the deeper reasons for their resistance to the concept of absolute Truth. Here are three common reasons people often reject objective Truth claims:

1. **PEER PRESSURE.** Think of one example you've seen of a person who denied the Truth because they wanted to be accepted (or they feared being rejected) by others. (see Matthew 16:26, Proverbs 4:14-15)
2. **PERSONAL PREFERENCE.** How might a person's patterns of sin deceive them into believing that truth is relative? (see Romans 1:25)
3. **PAST PAIN.** How can the trauma of our past distort our understanding of Truth? (see 1 Thessalonians 5:15)

Read John 8:32. What is the Gospel's answer to our culture's anti-Truth epidemic?

Why does it matter that, according to Christianity, TRUTH is a Person (as opposed to a platform, political ideology, religion, etc.)? What difference does it make?

How has knowing Jesus as a person changed your understanding of Truth?