



Your story matters.



Post-Truth?

Pastor Tom Lundeen
January 17th, 2021

MYRC.CHURCH



"Post-Truth?"

Pastor Tom Lundeen

MESSAGE NOTES

What did Jesus have to say to ordinary _____ like you and me?

What did He do in _____ lives?

In 2021 we live in a society and world dominated by post-_____ thinking: *Objective facts are less influential in shaping public opinion than appeals to _____ and personal belief...the repeated assertion of talking points to which factual rebuttals are _____*

Note [John 18:38a](#)

Jesus' encounter with Pilate shows what happens when post-_____ is embraced:

1. No _____ Standards

Note [John 18:28-35](#)

If there is no absolute truth in life to stand on, then it will be impossible to make decisions and _____ judgements on nearly anything.

2. _____ Compromise

Note [John 18:36-39; 18:40; 19:1-3; 19:4-12a](#)

Pilate was willing to _____ the truth of Jesus' innocence for what he perceived to be the *path of least resistance*.

Compromise encourages us to turn a *blind* eye to what is true and the results can be _____

3. Self-Centered _____

Pilate had the _____ truth in the universe staring him in the face, answering his questions, and challenging his pre-conceived notions and assumptions (note [John 14:6](#)).

Note [John 19:19-22](#)

Note [Matthew 27:19](#)

Note [John 19:12-16](#) and [Mark 15:15](#)

The only truth that mattered to Pilate was that he was the Roman Governor of Israel and anything that _____ his position and future needed to be dealt with decisively.

His selfish passions far _____ his commitment to any kind of truth.

Your story really does matter to *Jesus*:

- When the reality of absolute truth is doubted, ignored, or rejected, objective standards of right and wrong are subtly discarded, compromise becomes an _____ form, and self-interest and selfish passions _____ all decisions and actions.
- *What is truth?* is a question Pilate asked but he wasn't really interested in the answer, even though the _____ was standing right in front of his face.
- The result was that Pilate has forever been identified as a _____ opportunist and political hack who had no convictions other than his own security and advancement.
- Are we personally committed to the absolute truth of God's _____...
- ...and to the Person and _____ of Jesus...
- ...or are we finding ourselves laying aside objective standards of right and wrong...?
- Note [John 18:37d](#)

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey!
Let us know, too, and fill out our connect card (digital or in person).



SMALL GROUP
guide on the back



Your group matters.

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Icebreaker: Have you ever gone cow tipping? Where? Who were you with? Why? What happened? How did you feel?

1. Pastor Tom described post-truth thinking as, *"Objective facts are less influential in shaping public opinion than appeals to emotion and personal belief...the repeated assertion of talking points to which factual rebuttals are ignored."* We have all seen this in our world. How has this affected you personally?
2. Read [John 18:36-39; 18:40; 19:1-3; 19:4-12a](#). As Pastor Tom stated, *"Pilate was willing to compromise the truth of Jesus' innocence for what he perceived to be the path of least resistance."* How did compromise lead to more compromise in Pilate's life? How is compromise for the path of least resistance a temptation in your life?
3. Selfish passions can outweigh our commitment to truth. How does your own passion make this a challenge in your daily life? Read [John 19:19-22](#) and [Matthew 27:19](#).
4. Pastor Tom ended with a challenge to all of us. He asked, *"Are we personally committed to the absolute truth of God's principles and to the Person and work of Jesus or are we finding ourselves laying aside objective standards of right and wrong?"* How do you respond to this question?
5. How can we encourage one another, as a group, to pursue God's truth?

Day One: [Mark 13](#)

Day Two: [Mark 14](#)

Day Three: [Mark 15](#)

Day Four: [Mark 16](#)

Day Five: [Luke 1](#)

PERSONAL GUIDE



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MESSAGE NOTES

What did Jesus have to say to ordinary people like you and me?

What did He do in people's lives?

In 2021 we live in a society and world dominated by *post-truth* thinking: *Objective facts are less influential in shaping public opinion than appeals to emotion and personal belief...the repeated assertion of talking points to which factual rebuttals are ignored.*

Note John 18:38a

Jesus' encounter with Pilate shows what happens when *post-truth* is embraced:

1. No Objective Standards

Note John 18:28-35

If there is no absolute truth in life to stand on, then it will be impossible to make decisions and accurate judgements on nearly anything.

2. Calculated Compromise

Note John 18:36-39; 18:40; 19:1-3; 19:4-12a

Pilate was willing to compromise the truth of Jesus' innocence for what he perceived to be the *path of least resistance*.

Compromise encourages us to turn a *blind* eye to what is true and the results can be tragic.

3. Self-Centered Passions

Pilate had the ultimate truth in the universe staring him in the face, answering his questions, and challenging his pre-conceived notions and assumptions (note John 14:6).

Note John 19:19-22

Note Matthew 27:19

Note John 19:12-16 and Mark 15:15

The only truth that mattered to Pilate was that he was the Roman Governor of Israel and anything that threatened his position and future needed to be dealt with decisively.

His selfish passions far outweighed his commitment to any kind of truth.

Your story really does matter to Jesus:

- When the reality of absolute truth is doubted, ignored, or rejected, objective standards of right and wrong are subtly discarded, compromise becomes an art form, and self-interest and selfish passions rule all decisions and actions.
- *What is truth?* is a question Pilate asked but he wasn't really interested in the answer, even though the answer was standing right in front of his face.
- The result was that Pilate has forever been identified as a weak-willed opportunist and political hack who had no convictions other than his own security and advancement.
- Are we personally committed to the absolute truth of God's principles...
- ...and to the Person and work of Jesus...
- ...or are we finding ourselves laying aside objective standards of right and wrong...?
- Note John 18:37d

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