

Road Trip
to
TRUTH
STUDY GUIDE

Season 1



WELCOME!

High schools, college campuses, political platforms, workplaces, and even social influences are rife with atheistic, evolutionary, and postmodern ideas that are incompatible with a Biblical worldview. No Christian is immune to secular assaults on their faith.

The *Road Trip to Truth* curriculum is intended to equip participants for the onslaught of postmodern ideas they will encounter in an increasingly secular world. The goal of this study is to introduce students to many of the ideas and arguments they will likely face and to persuade them of the reality and defensibility of the Christian worldview.

After this study, participants should be able to demonstrate the irrationality of an atheistic worldview, describe the Christian worldview and its basis, articulate the Gospel, and recognize many of the ideas and arguments indicative of non-biblical worldviews.

Each lesson will include:

- VIDEO episode from *Road Trip to Truth* (30 minutes), broken into four segments
- FOUR KEY questions for each student to consider and answer
- Scripted CONNECTION POINTS to help foster conversation
- ADDITIONAL GROUP QUESTIONS, if time permits
- ADDITIONAL RESOURCES for further study and lesson preparation
- Time for PRAYER as a group or individually

HOW TO USE THIS STUDY GUIDE

Here is the basic format of the *Road Trip to Truth* Bible Study

- 1 Begin with prayer
- 2 Have the class answer FOUR KEY questions before watching the video.
- 3 Teacher plays segment one of *Road Trip to Truth*.
- 4 Discuss question one using the CONNECTION POINT.
- 5 If time permits, additional questions have been provided.
- 6 Watch segment two (Repeat steps 3-5).
- 7 Session Summaries can be printed and handed out at the end of the class. (See Appendix A)

SAMPLE SCHEDULE

Below is a sample schedule based on one hour and fifteen minutes of class time. Exact timing will vary with segment lengths and success of discussion.

- 6:00–6:05** Open prayer, introduction, and have participants answer all FOUR KEY questions.
- 6:05–6:15** Watch video SEGMENT ONE.
- 6:15–6:20** Discuss segment one and participants' answers to question one.
- 6:20–6:30** Watch video SEGMENT TWO.
- 6:30–6:35** Discuss segment two and participants' answers to question two.
- 6:35–6:45** Watch video SEGMENT THREE.
- 6:45–6:50** Discuss segment three and participants' answers to question three.
- 6:50–7:00** Watch video SEGMENT FOUR.
- 7:00–7:05** Discuss segment four and participants' answers to question four.
- 7:05–7:15** Wrap-up, answer any questions, make announcements, close with prayer.

HELPFUL DISCUSSION TIPS

- **Don't cut short an engaging discussion.** Invest your time where the participants respond best. It's not imperative that you finish all four segments of each session in one sitting.
- **Have a plan, but be flexible.** Allow the students to guide the discussion. In this way you will learn what aspects they are most concerned with.
- **Encourage thoughtful explanations.**
- **Avoid leading questions;** the goal of discussion is not to receive correct answers, but to lead participants to think about their answers.
- **Be prepared to offer correction to false ideas,** especially toward the end of the curriculum, but when possible, guide participants to discover for themselves the flaws in their thinking.

KEY QUESTIONS

Session 1: What is Truth?

Road Trip to Truth

Have participants write their answers to all four questions. We will discuss how their answers change after watching the video segments.

1. Religious beliefs are (choose one)
 - A. Absolutely true or false
 - B. A matter of personal preference (i.e., what is true for you may be different than what is true for me)

2. Christianity is (choose one)
 - A. The only way to God
 - B. One of many ways to God

3. The Bible we have today (choose one)
 - A. Includes mistakes and changes
 - B. Is the same Bible that was written by the original authors

4. The main point of the Bible is to (choose one)
 - A. Show us how to live moral lives
 - B. Reveal the only truth that leads to eternal life



SEGMENT 1:

THE LAW OF NON-CONTRADICTION

VIDEO

Play the first segment of *Road Trip to Truth* episode 1. Encourage participants to take notes. Main ideas:

- › Truth is reality, that which corresponds to reality.
- › The same source of truth that stands behind the laws of logic and math stands behind the laws of morality.
- › Belief can be relative, but truth cannot be relative.
- › The law of non-contradiction states that $A=B$ and $A\neq B$ cannot both be true.
- › We know there are moral absolutes, so a moral lawgiver must exist.

DISCUSSION

Have participants write down if and why their answer to the first question has changed after watching the video. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

>> Connection Point <<

Truth, by very definition, cannot be relative because it is reality. Reality is not based on interpretation or feelings. People agree that math and logic are based on absolute rules. But the same standard that stands behind the laws of logic and math stands behind the laws of morality. That standard is the holy and unchanging Creator God. Psalm 119:142 says, “Your righteousness is righteous forever, and your law is true.” It is this consistent righteousness and justice—the very character of God—that defines morality. If God is the standard of reality that defines truth, then we must look to His Word to find the answer to the question, “What is truth?”

ADDITIONAL GROUP QUESTIONS

As time permits, use these additional questions to help facilitate a group conversation.

1. Do you think “Truth is that which corresponds to reality” is a good definition of truth? Why or why not?
2. One of the students said that even a lie can be the truth if enough people believe in it. What do you think about that perspective?

SEGMENT 2:

THE BIBLE'S DEFINITION OF TRUTH

VIDEO

Play the second segment of *Road Trip to Truth* episode 1. Encourage participants to take notes. Main ideas:

- Truth is embodied in a single person—Jesus
- Jesus defied the odds by fulfilling over 300 prophecies
- Other faiths and religious writings are self-refuting or internally inconsistent and cannot account for everything that we see in the world around us
- The Bible, and a Biblical worldview, is internally consistent and externally verifiable
- As Savior, as Lord, as Judge, and as God He has every right to claim to be the truth

DISCUSSION

Have participants write down if and why their answer to the second question has changed after watching the video. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

>> Connection Point <<

Atheism is a worldview that claims everyone can define their own truth. Theism states that God defines truth. Atheism, like all religions apart from Christianity, are self-refuting, internally inconsistent (i.e., they contradict themselves), or they cannot account for the world around us. But the Bible does not contradict itself and it can account for the world around us. This is what we mean when we say the Bible is externally verifiable. For example, time and time again archaeological finds have confirmed history as described in the Bible, like the Tel Dan stele that verifies that David was king over the United Monarchy of Israel. We can trust the Bible when it teaches that Jesus is truth. First John 5:20 says, “And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.” In John 14:6, Jesus said “I am the way, the truth, and the life.” God, as Creator, gets to post the signs telling what is right and wrong. And in the Bible, God has defined truth as Jesus Christ.

ADDITIONAL GROUP QUESTIONS

As time permits, use these additional questions to help facilitate a group conversation.

1. How would you have answered the question about Nazi Germany? Do you think what they did was wrong? On what reasons do you base your conclusion?
2. How does understanding that Jesus fulfilled over 300 prophecies—and how improbable that is— impact your perception about the truthfulness of the Bible?



SEGMENT 3:

OBJECTIONS TO BIBLICAL TRUTH

VIDEO

Play the third segment of *Road Trip to Truth* episode 1. Encourage participants to take notes. Main ideas:

- God is the ultimate authority behind the reality we live in
- The men who wrote the Bible faced persecution and death for what they wrote
- Although there are apparent errors in Biblical manuscripts, there are no major contradictions
- There are over 6,000 manuscripts of the New Testament
- The Bible is the Word of God and clearly reveals truth

DISCUSSION

Have participants write down if and why their answer to the third question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion.

>> Connection Point <<

Because truth comes from the unchanging nature of God, we can know what is true. God has told us what is true about Himself in His Word. Many people object to the Bible as the authority on God and reality, saying they will believe in God when He reveals Himself to them personally or supernaturally. But God has already revealed Himself plainly. Isaiah 45:18–19 says that God, the Creator of all things, did not speak in secret or refuse to be found by those who seek Him. He said, “I the Lord speak the truth; I declare what is right.” God is the standard for what is right and true, and He has revealed to us not only the truth about who He is but also about the only way to eternal life with Him.

ADDITIONAL GROUP QUESTIONS

As time permits, use these additional questions to help facilitate a group conversation.

1. Do you feel that the objections to the Bible were satisfactorily answered? What objections do you still have?
2. Do you think it is unreasonable for those students to claim that they would believe in God if they saw a miracle or if God directly revealed Himself to them? Why or why not?

SEGMENT 4: THE TRUTH OF THE GOSPEL

VIDEO

Play the fourth segment of *Road Trip to Truth* episode 1. Encourage participants to take notes. Main ideas:

- There is only one truth that leads to eternal life
- The central message of the Bible is the Gospel
- To have faith in Christ is to believe the facts, trust in Jesus, and a willingness to obey Jesus
- There is truth in this world because God created it and His Word is truth
- The Christian faith is a reasonable faith centered on Jesus Christ and His great work

DISCUSSION

Have participants write down if and why their answer to the third question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion.

>> Connection Point <<

This is the message the entire Bible is pointing to: we are sinners who justly deserve hell, but Jesus paid the price to restore us and make us members of His family. When asked what must be done to be saved, Paul said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved” (Acts 16:31). This means believing the facts about who He is, trusting in His death and resurrection as the payment for our sins, and being willing to obey Him. There is truth in this world because God created it, and His Word is truth. We see laid out in the Bible the foundation of a reasonable faith based on Jesus Christ and His great work. We will further explore this reasonable faith as we continue on the Road Trip to Truth.

ADDITIONAL GROUP QUESTIONS

As time permits, use these additional questions to help facilitate a group conversation.

1. How would you describe the central message of the Bible?
2. What is faith? Is it enough to believe that the Bible is true?

CONCLUSION

Use whatever time remains to answer questions, make announcements, and close in prayer.



Barnett, Tim. "Can the Bible Be Reliable If It Had Human Authors?" Stand to Reason.

<https://www.str.org/w/can-the-bible-be-reliable-if-it-had-human-authors-?>

The assumption that the Bible must contain mistakes because it was written by men is to assume that men always make mistakes. There are books written by men that do not contain mistakes, so the fact that men wrote the Bible does not require that mistakes were made. For the concern to be valid, a specific instance of an apparent mistake must be evaluated. Further, the objection assumes that the Bible was merely written by men. However, the Bible claims to be divinely inspired. Certainly God could have prevented the human authors from making a mistake.

GotQuestions.org. "Is Truth Relative?" GotQuestions.org.

<https://www.gotquestions.org/is-truth-relative.html>.

Many deny absolute truth by claiming that whatever you believe is true for you, but if I don't agree, it isn't true for me. The idea of relative truth sounds tolerant and open-minded, but it is actually self-refuting and passes judgment on what someone else believes to be true. There are certainly statements that are relative, but there are other statements that describe objective reality and, therefore, cannot be relative. Opinions are generally relative, but the Bible teaches that there is an objective spiritual reality just as there is an objective physical reality and truth is not relative.

"What Is Truth?" GotQuestions.org. <https://www.gotquestions.org/what-is-truth.html>.

Truth can be defined as that which corresponds to reality, that which matches its object, or simply telling it like it is. Truth is based on reality. The Bible teaches that Jesus embodied truth. Jesus is truth. There are several philosophies that object to truth or try to redefine it. Truth is offensive, and rather than conform to truth, many simply reject the reality of truth. But there are consequences to being wrong, and truth does matter, especially in the realm of Christianity. To reject truth is to reject Jesus.

Kunkle, Brett. "Can We Trust the Bible?" Stand to Reason.

<https://www.str.org/w/can-we-trust-the-bible-?>

When a dispute arises, it is settled by turning to the appropriate authority. In matters of religion, that authority is God Himself. We can trust the Bible because what we have is what is written and what we read is what God said. We can have confidence in the method of transmission as the Scriptures were handed down in writing in many different lines, resulting in a host of manuscript copies that we can examine for reliability. Further, the Bible is packed with fulfilled prophecies and transcendent truths that can only be explained by the revelation of God. Although written by 40 different men, the Bible demonstrates the unity of a single Author. The Bible has proven its reliability through the supernatural impact on the lives of countless individuals who have been transformed by the Word of God.

Lawson, Steven. "The Moment of Truth: Its Reality." Ligonier Ministries.
<https://www.ligonier.org/blog/moment-truth-its-reality/>.

Jesus is truth. There is reality, the way things really are. Truth is not how things appear or how we want them to be or popular consensus. Truth is the way things really are. Truth is divine; it is the self-disclosure of God's own nature. Truth is absolute, the definitive standard by which everything is measured. Truth is objective and singular. Truth is unchanging and eternal, authoritative, powerful, and determinative. Your eternal destiny is determined by the truth.

Lux, Tenebras. "On Subjective Emotion and Objective Truth." The Republican Standard.
<https://therepublicanstandard.com/on-subjective-emotion-and-objective-truth/>.

Relative truth and the emphasis on the value of the individual's feelings is the alchemy of philosophy—trying to create value from something worthless. In this pursuit, truth has been sacrificed in favor of self-indulgence. Self is god, and thus the goal becomes to externalize internal desires, anything goes. In this worldview, truth has no value and meaning is found in subjective emotion.

Slick, Matt. "Since the New Testament Writers Were Biased, Can We Trust Their Testimony?" CARM.org. **<https://carm.org/writers-biased-trust-their-testimony>.**

Being biased does not mean being untruthful if your bias leans toward truth. The disciples were biased toward Jesus, who taught honesty, righteousness, and truth. Jesus warned against bearing false witness. The Gospel writers were careful to record truthfully what they saw and experienced. Also, if what they wrote was false, there were many people at the time who could have exposed the inaccuracies. But that didn't happen. Opponents did arrest, beat, and kill those who followed Jesus. The disciples wrote what they saw and were willing to die for that truth. We can trust their testimony.

Slick, Matt. "What Is the Purpose and Message of the Bible?" CARM.org.
<https://carm.org/what-is-the-purpose-and-message-of-the-bible>.

The purpose of the Bible is to reveal who God is and what His will is for mankind. The Bible is a history book that conveys the account of God's work, from creation to redemption to the end of all things. This work was (and will be) accomplished through Jesus Christ, the central character of the Bible. Scripture documents the prophecies about the coming Messiah, the arrival of Jesus, and his ministry to sinners. The Bible explains God's original design, the fall of mankind into sin, the need for the Savior, the promise of the Savior, the perfect life and substitutionary death of Jesus, and the offer of salvation and reconciliation to any who would truth in the name of Jesus.

