**Outline on 1 Corinthians 15:1-34 by Jeremy Bower**

What is Truth?

* Anything that is open to interpretation can’t be truth because truth never changes.
* A circle cannot be a square
* It is not dependent on emotion
* It is always 100% provable
* Truth doesn’t care about your feelings (facts don’t care about feelings)
* Truth is immovable
* Cannot change over time
* Cannot be interpreted different ways.
* Many are seeing that truth is relative. Maybe you can’t trust truth?

We are having trouble discerning the truth from lies.

* Fake News
* Satire News
* Questionable sources? Are they credible?

1 Corinthians 15:2-8

* You are saved by this Gospel (not another) or you would believe in vain
* Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures
* He was buried
* He was raised on the 3rd day according to Scriptures
* He appeared to Cephas, then the 12, and then to 500
* He then appeared to James, then all the apostles
* Lastly, he appeared to me (Paul)

1 Corinthians 15:12-19 (Laying out the Gospel)

* We are convinced of this Gospel (truth)
* We must tell others because of this truth
* If this were a lie, why would we be facing trials and wasting time preaching to you? What do we have to gain?
* When we find out TRUTH, we want to share it with others (Solo Cups, Peanuts, Unicorn)

1 Corinthians 15:20-28 (Explanation to further this truth)

* Because of Christ’s resurrection the firstfruits are experienced with those who have already died in those who are IN CHRIST
* Death (Sin) came through Adam, Life (Forgiveness of sins) came through Jesus
* The kingdom is handed over to GOD THE FATHER after he has destroyed all dominion, authority, and power.
* Then he must reign until all enemies are under his feet
* Last to be destroyed is death
* After all this, the Son himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him, so that God may be all in all.

1 Corinthians 15:29-33 The Argument of the Resurrection using a secular concept

* Why are people baptized for the dead if there is no resurrection?
* Paul uses this argument not to demonstrate that this practice this is good and pleasing, but rather to demonstrate a secular ceremony to prove his point that in fact there is life after death.
* If the resurrection didn’t happen, we are wasting our time. I have better things to do than be chased by wild beasts from Ephesus if this were just human compulsion.

Matthew 7:15-20

* Watch out for wolves in sheep clothes
* You can spot an imposter by the fruit they produce
* Bad trees ONLY produce bad fruit. Good trees ONLY produce good fruit.

1 Corinthians 15:29-33

* Bad company corrupts good character.
* Illustration from Jim Jones (Jonestown) History.com

2 Timothy 4:2-5

* A time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine.
* They will surround themselves with others who agree with them and support them.
* They will turn their ears away from the truth and follow myths.

Are you an influencer or are you being influenced?

2 Corinthians 11:3-4

* Paul is concerned that the Corinthians have not held onto the truth and are at risk of falling away.

How to discern truth

* Prayer
* Dependence on the Holy Spirit
* Fellow Christians (who are living a life of integrity)
* Backed by the Bible (not just proof texts)
* Reading the Bible in Community
* Is this exemplifying Jesus? Edifying the church?

**Life Group Questions**

1. When have been times when you have fallen for something that was fake? (Story, News, Prank)
2. This period of history has been known as “The Information Age.” How is this a good thing and how is this a bad thing?
3. When you have experienced something amazing and true for the first time, how did you respond? Were you excited, did you share it with anyone?

Have you done that with what you know about Jesus?

1. In in 2 Timothy 4:2-5, the Apostle Paul is imploring Timothy to discharge his duties as an evangelist. It also came with a warning. How have you seen this played out in history?
2. How confident are you that you could defend your Christian beliefs against all attacks? Does this comfort you or challenge you?