**Briefing Document: The War on Reality**

**Sunday PM-November 8, 2026**

This briefing document summarizes the presentation titled "The War On Reality" (delivered on November 8, 2026, at NewLifeBenson). The message addresses how modern society attempts to redefine truth, morality, and human identity. It explains that current cultural and political conflicts are not merely human arguments, but represent a deeper spiritual battle over reality itself.

Key Takeaways

- **God Defines Reality:** Truth is objective and grounded in God's creation. Humans do not create truth; they discover it.
- **Feelings Are Not Truth:** Human emotions change and can deceive, whereas God's Word provides an unshifting standard—like a compass—for navigating life.
- **Boundaries Provide Freedom:** Straying from God's intended design leads to harm rather than freedom, just as a fish placed on land perishes outside its environment.
- **Spiritual Battle Demands Spiritual Weapons:** Believers face a spiritual conflict that cannot be won through political arguments, anger, or hatred. Jesus proclaimed truth rather than engaging in angry debate.
- **Parenting and Discipleship Are Essential:** Families and churches must actively teach children why Christianity is true, rather than relying on external cultural institutions.
- **Grace and Truth Belong Together:** Christians must share the truth courageously while showing kindness, respect, and love to everyone.

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Background and Presentation Context

The presentation was prepared for an evening church gathering of mature, experienced believers. It highlights how local communities, even rural ones, are affected by broader cultural shifts.

Local Observations and Practical Trivia

- **The Sanctuary Movement Origin:** On March 24, 1982, the U.S. sanctuary movement began locally at Southside Presbyterian Church (led by Rev. John Fife) and a Quaker meeting in Tucson, Arizona. This demonstrates that small or rural communities are not isolated from larger societal developments.
- **Agricultural Innovation:** Farmers used basic wooden plows for thousands of years until John Deere introduced the steel plow in 1903. This illustrates how long-held, less effective habits can persist until a better solution is adopted.

- **Primary Resource:** The lesson draws upon the book The War on Reality by Frank Turek and Phoenix Hayes (featuring a foreword by Erica Kirk) and its accompanying study workbook.

Community Prayer Focus

- Prayer requests were shared for local needs, including Kathy's brother Jeff, the passing of church members Arlene and Don, and the spiritual walk of children within the community.

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Core Themes and Analysis

Theme 1: God as the Ultimate Source of Reality

Society increasingly promotes subjective truth, often summarized by the phrase: "You have your truth, and I have mine." However, two opposite claims cannot both be true simultaneously. Reality does not change simply because an individual disagrees with it.

- **God Precedes Culture:** Genesis 1:1 states, In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. God existed before human governments, cultures, or philosophies. Therefore, He alone holds the authority to define reality.
- **Evidence of Design:** Psalm 19:1 states, The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork. Just as a complex building requires an architect, the order of the universe points to an intelligent Creator.
- **Inherent Human Worth:** Human dignity does not depend on income, education, appearance, or political views. Worth comes from being created in the image of God.

*"We live in a culture where people increasingly believe that truth is personal, morality is negotiable, and reality can be changed simply because someone disagrees with it... Reality does not change because someone disagrees with it."*

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Theme 2: Objective Truth vs. Subjective Feelings

A major struggle in modern culture is the belief that personal feelings determine what is real or right. While feelings are real, they are frequently unreliable guides.

| [ Human Feelings ] | [ God's Word ] |
|---|---|
| - Change frequently | - Immutable standard |
| - Subject to anger/fear | - Provides correction & guidance |
| - Driven by preference | - Points to absolute truth |

- **The Unchanging Standard:** Hebrews 13:8 states, Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.
- **The Compass Analogy:** A compass continuously points north regardless of a traveler's personal preferences. If a person wants to head south, they must adjust their direction; the compass will not adjust to them.
- **Purpose of Scripture:** 2 Timothy 3:16 states, All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, Scripture provides what people need to hear, offering loving correction to keep individuals from danger.

*"Changing your feelings will not change the compass. We must change direction, and God's Word is our spiritual compass."*

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Theme 3: Freedom Requires Staying Within Created Boundaries

Humanity often seeks the benefits of God's creation while rejecting His moral boundaries. However, true human flourishing requires living according to the Creator's design.

- **Exchanging Truth for Lies:** Romans 1:25 describes those who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator...
- **The Fish Analogy:** A fish is designed to live in water. Taking a fish out of water to give it "freedom" on dry land results in its death. Disconnecting freedom from God's design leads to destruction.
- **Compassion Without Compromise:** Disagreeing with modern cultural views does not mean treating others as enemies. Jesus showed great compassion to people while still calling them away from sin.

*"Freedom disconnected from design becomes destruction. Humans flourish when they live according to the wisdom of their Creator."*

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Theme 4: Understanding the Spiritual Battle

The ongoing cultural disagreement over reality is fundamentally spiritual rather than political.

- **The Real Enemy:** Ephesians 6:12 outlines the nature of this struggle: For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual wickedness in heavenly places.
- **Proclamation Over Debate:** Hostility, insults, and political arguments cannot win a spiritual battle. Throughout the Gospels, Jesus did not engage in endless debates; He simply proclaimed the truth.

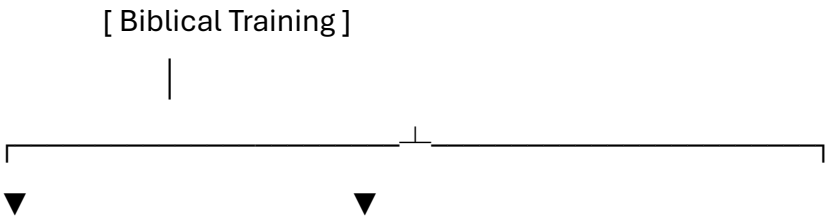
- **Mindful Discernment:** 2 Corinthians 10:5 calls believers to be bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, In an information-heavy age, tools like social media, news outlets, and messaging platforms can easily spread deception or damage personal relationships.
- **The Berean Example:** Acts 17:11 commends the Bereans because they searched the Scriptures daily to verify whether what they were being taught was true. Modern believers must similarly fact-check all ideas against God's Word.

*"Our ultimate enemy is not another human being. Our battle is spiritual. That means we cannot win this battle through anger."*

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Theme 5: Equipping the Next Generation

Passing faith and discernment down to children is one of the most vital responsibilities of the family and the church.




[ Home Instruction ] [ Church Community ]

Deuteronomy 6:6-7 Proverbs 22:6

Parents model biblical truth. Churches train and equip.

- **Direct Instruction:** Deuteronomy 6:6-7 instructs parents to teach God's commands diligently to their children.
- **Solid Foundations:** Proverbs 22:6 states, Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it.
- **Local Example:** Children raised actively participating in church services—such as the youth in the local congregation (including the CHO family children, Miles and Sally)—grow up to become grounded, responsible adult believers who lead healthy families.
- **Beyond Entertainment:** Churches must move beyond merely entertaining young people. Leaders and parents must explain why Christianity is true, why Jesus rose from the dead, and why the Bible is reliable.

*"If we do not prepare them to recognize the deception, the world will offer them another foundation."*

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Theme 6: The Gospel as the Ultimate Reality

The Christian message provides clear answers to life's fundamental questions: origin, identity, morality, suffering, and destiny.

- **Jesus is the Truth:** John 14:6 records, Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." Christianity is not just a set of rules, but a living relationship with God.
- **Unconditional Love:** Romans 5:8 states, But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
- **Defending Faith with Respect:** 1 Peter 3:15 calls believers to always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear; Defense of the truth must always be marked by humility and grace, not arrogance.
- **True Freedom:** John 8:32 promises, And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

Three Daily Commitments for Believers

1. **Spend Time in God's Word:** Build daily life firmly on the teachings of Scripture.
2. **Defend the Truth:** Understand the reasons behind Christian beliefs and stand firm when challenged.
3. **Live the Truth:** Demonstrate the reality of Jesus Christ through personal character, love, and integrity.

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Summary of Scripture References

All scriptural citations in this document are presented in accordance with the New King James Version (NKJV):

| Scripture Reference | Text |
|---|---|
| **Genesis 1:1** | In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. |
| **Psalm 19:1** | The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork. |
| **Hebrews 13:8** | Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. |
| **2 Timothy 3:16** | All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Romans 1:25** | who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. |
| **Ephesians 6:12** | For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual wickedness in heavenly places. |
| **2 Corinthians 10:5** | casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, |
| **Deuteronomy 6:6–7** | And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. |
| **Proverbs 22:6** | Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it. |
| **John 14:6** | Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." |
| **Romans 5:8** | But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. |
| **1 Peter 3:15** | But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear; |
| **John 8:32** | And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. |

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Greek Vocabulary and Pronunciation Guide

**Note on Source Text:** A complete audit of the original transcript context confirms that no explicit Greek words or Greek terms were spoken or introduced during this presentation.[^1]

| Greek Term | Phonetic Pronunciation | Definition | Source Citation |
|---|---|---|---|
| **N/A** | N/A | No explicit Greek vocabulary terms were utilized in the source transcript context. | Source Context Audit |

[^1]: Verification confirmed that while English translations of Old and New Testament passages were read, no specific ancient Greek vocabulary words (e.g., logos, agape, aletheia) were explicitly introduced in the source transcript.