**truth or Truth Week #2 (Worldview and the Nature of Truth)**

What is a Worldview? - the lens through which you see the world.

Every worldview must answer these 5 questions:

* Where did we come from?
* Who are we?
* Why are we here?
* How should we live?
* Where are we going? What is our destiny

Worldviews:

* Theist - God made all (Judaism, Christianity and Islam)
* Pantheist - God is all (Zen Buddhism, New Age, Hinduism)
* Atheist - No God at all (Humanism, secularism)
* Agnostic - Someone who is unsure of the question of God.  2 types - They just simply don’t know if God exists, someone who believes that truth about God can’t be known

Painting:

* Theist- God made the painting
* Pantheist - God is the painting
* Atheist - what looks like a painting has always existed and no one painted it.

What is truth?

Truth is a belief or statement that corresponds with reality

* Truth is discovered, not invented
* Truth is transcultural. It is true for all people of all time periods. (2+2=4)
* Truth is unchanging (even if our beliefs about truth change.)
* Beliefs cannot change what is true, despite how sincere the person is who believes it.
* Truth is not affected by the attitude of the one professing it.

St. Augustine: “A statement is not necessarily true because it is wrapped in fine language, or false because it is awkwardly expressed.”

What is a truth claim?

* Any statement that a particular person or belief system holds to be true.
* Pluralism: Accepting all beliefs as true. (Law of Non-Contradiction.)

Tolerance: (Original): Putting up with something you believe to be false

                   (Modern): Accepting every belief as true (soft form of pluralism)

The Law of Non-Contradiction

* It states that something cannot be both true and not true at the same time when dealing with the same context.

Excerpt from [Christianmomthoughts.com](http://christianmomthoughts.com/):

*I was driving with the kids recently when my son announced that he had seen a black, red and yellow bird on his side of the car. My daughter Kenna immediately corrected him.*

*“Nathan, you are NOT right! The bird was black and red. It did not have any yellow. You are wrong.”*

*Nathan screamed back at her, “No! I am right! The bird DID have yellow on his bottom.”*

*Tired mom syndrome kicked in here and I entered the fray with this disingenuous response: “Guys! It doesn’t matter. Sometimes people see different things. Everyone can be right at the same time.”*

*Fast forward to the following week. My other daughter, Alexa, came running into the kitchen screaming, “Mommy! Kenna hit me!”*

*Kenna walked in behind her with a casual shrug. “No I didn’t. Now stop talking about it. We can both be right. Sometimes people see different things.”*

*I couldn’t believe it. My lazy response from the week before had totally confused my daughter’s understanding of truth! I had given her the idea that no one is right or wrong about anything, and everyone can be right at the same time.*

*As obvious as it may seem that there are many things which are true or not true (Kenna hit Alexa or she did not), this very basic understanding of truth – fundamental to Christianity – is under attack today. Kenna’s not the only one getting confused.*

1) black, red and yellow (as Nathan claimed), 2) only black and red (as Kenna claimed), or 3) something else altogether (if they were both wrong).

Ad Hominem

* responding to arguments by attacking a person's character, rather than addressing the content of their arguments.
* Remember to interact with a person’s ideas and not what you may deem lacking in their character.

Strawman Argument

* Changing or exaggerating an opponent’s position to make it easier to refute.

Syllogism

* a form of reasoning in which a conclusion is drawn (whether validly or not) from two given or assumed propositions (premises), each of which shares a term with the conclusion, and shares a common or middle term not present in the conclusion
1. All classes at Grace Chapel have at least one teacher.
2. truth or Truth is a class at Grace Chapel.
3. Therefore, truth or Truth has at least one teacher.

Why do these laws matter when it comes to religion? - What we believe is grounded in reality.

“And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.” - 1 Corinthians 15:14,17

“He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay.” - Matthew 28:6