

SPEAK THE TRUTH Bible Study

Preparing to *re*-present Christ in any conversation

<u>CARMENLABERGE.COM</u>

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

- Where God belongs
- **2** God, muted?
- **3** Truth has consequences and so do lies
- **4** I know something's wrong, but what's right?
- **5** The necessity of restoring the Word of God to its rightful place
- 6 Yes, it's personal (and you should take it that way)
- **7** The call to look up, suit up, and speak up
- 8 Counteracting fake good news
- **9** Offering a reorientation to Truth consistent with reality
- **10** Getting God back into every conversation by reconnecting the eternal with the everyday

CONCLUSION

ABOUT THE AUTHOR AND ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

INTRODUCTION Something is wrong

America is divided over many things, but there is consensus that something is wrong. We may not be able to quite put our finger on it and everyone from journalists to cultural commentators disagree over the root causes, but virtually every American recognizes our current state of polarization does not "we the people" make. Across the ideological spectrum we agree justice is not prevailing, tensions in cities are high, poverty has become the generational expectation for too many, fear is all too prevalent between neighbors and too many of our systems are working for too few.

Globally, we acknowledge that America's credibility and influence have changed and political, sociological, economic, and religious finger pointing abounds. It's always the fault of the other and the other has become the enemy. There is no poetry in our politics and there is too much partisanship even among those who are supposed to be of one mind. Here I'm talking about Christians. That's right, I contend Christians should be leading the conversations in culture, bringing the mind of Christ to bear on the matters of the day, as ministers of reconciliation.

Now is the time and this is the place for a distinctively Christian witness in America. It is time for a cultural revolution of redemptive grace in America.

It will not be bloodless revolution, but all the blood necessary has already been spilled by Jesus on the Cross. And while it is a war, it is not waged with the weapons of this world. Interim evidence of its advance will be marked in ways the world does not understand. But as good news is proclaimed to the poor, captives and the oppressed are set at liberty, the blind begin to see, we can be confident that the culture is being remade and transformed.

Transformed, yes; perfected, no. We know better than to expect utopia or heaven on Earth. That day will come, but until it does, life will be complicated and the Gospel will be contested. Indeed, this is the day the Lord has made and it is into this day the Lord sends us to bear witness to Him.

Bible Reading & Questions

- 1. **Read Luke 24:13-35.** Keeping in mind the journey to Emmaus was roughly seven hours long, what can we glean from Jesus' example about our daily conversations?
- 2. Why do you think the Christian perspective has been sidelined in the cultural conversations of the day?

"

Now is the time and this is the place for a distinctively Christian witness in America. It is time for a cultural revolution of redemptive grace.

CHAPTER 1 Where God belongs

From the Beginning there has really only been one question: me or Thee? Who gets to be Lord of this one life? Who gets to be god of my thoughts, the god of my relationships, the god of my affections, the god of my education, the god of my internet habits, the god of my finances, the god of my medical decisions, the god of my perspective, the god of my words, and the god of my deeds? In every moment you and I (and every other person in all the world) is making one choice: Me or Thee?

There is a war, a battle, being waged over every human heart and mind, in every generation. There's a war being waged right now over the territory, terrain, contours, and sovereignty of your life. There's a battle for your attention, your affection, your thoughts, your words.

It is humankind—not God—who has sorted pieces of life into sacred and secular. Into what is "His" and what is "ours." Church on Sunday morning— God time. Football on Sunday afternoon (and Monday night and all day Saturday)— mine. We imagine we're giving God His due by showing up on Sunday morning when God's due is all we have, all we are, and all we do.

When God is at the center of our thoughts, when He comprises the content of our character, the goal of our labor, the head of our household, the Lord of health, the ruler of our internet practices, the master of our politics, and the subject of our conversations, He's right where He belongs.

When we hear or read the headlines of the day, the question is often asked, "Where was God?" The Christian must speak up and give assurance that God hasn't gone anywhere—in whatever joy or triumph, devastation or adversity you face, God is. That is His nature and He will not act in ways inconsistent with His character. So, in every moment it is relevant to consider: what is God's perspective on this? Because His thoughts are not our thoughts and His ways are not our ways, we have to be trained to see and think and respond as God would. We do not naturally have the mind of Christ on the matters of the day. It must be spiritually cultivated.

- 1. **Read Colossians 1:15-20**. What does it mean to you that God is reconciling all things to himself?
- 2. What areas in your life do you see God working to reconcile to himself? Are there areas that need to be submitted to reconciliation?



CHAPTER 2 God, muted?

The U.S. is a mess. The litany of what's wrong is long and cultural commentators talk at length about how government can make it right. I have news for you; the issues confronting the United States (or any nation under heaven for that matter) are not going to be solved by secular government alone. Change is needed, but to misplace hope in any earthly king or kingdom is an error Christians must not make.

You often hear Christians in America assert that God has been sidelined primarily because the secular culture pushes the Biblical worldview from the table of public discussion. This feeling is understandable when secular thought seems to control so many of the institutions of influence. The protest from the religious right is "America is no longer a Christian nation." The burden of that condemnation rests not on the culture but on the Christian. It is the Christian's responsibility to break into the conversation with the diplomacy of an Ambassador, as an agent of Grace, speaking the Truth in love.

Christians have largely lost the sense of themselves as Ambassadors of the Kingdom of the Heaven to the kingdoms of this world. God deploys Christians as His ambassadors around the globe and this nation is our particular diplomatic post. We are resident aliens with dual citizenship, but we should never become confused about where our true allegiance lies. We are in the world, but we are not a part of it. This is not our home. We're here on a mission on behalf of another King and another Kingdom.

The people around us are asking three basic sets of questions about identity, belonging, and purpose. As Christians we know all of those questions are answered in Jesus Christ. So, if we have the answers to the questions the people around us are asking, why are we not engaged in the cultural conversations of the day? If we are the Ambassadors of the King and the Kingdom that offers people a new restored identity, temporal and eternal belonging, and a mission in this life, then isn't it time to unmute and get God back into the conversation?

- 1. **Read II Corinthians 5:11-20.** How do you feel about being called an Ambassador of the Kingdom of Heaven? Do you feel equipped to represent God in the world today? If not, discuss some ways to get equipped.
- 2. How does your role as an Ambassador charged with accurately representing your Sovereign change the way you engage in conversations with others?

CHAPTER 3 Truth has consequences and so do lies

We live among a dis-integrated people in a disoriented culture. Most people are not integrated in their thinking and, therefore, are not integrated in their living. They can rationalize whatever works for them in the moment because they have no belief in, nor relationship to, anything or anyone who is not malleable. Ethics are situational and everything is negotiable. Everything is fluid including their identity, relationships, and moral behavior.

The culture— characterized by media, entertainment, music, fashion, sports, academia, politics and religion – is simply the fruit produced in a garden collectively tilled, planted and cultivated by the people who inhabit a place for a time. So, together as Americans we produce a culture that reflects "us." But we are largely disintegrated in terms of worldview and that results in a culture that is disoriented, dysfunctional and producing a lot of rotten fruit.

There was a time when the majority of the people in the culture sought to orient their lives in reference to God as revealed in the Bible, but those days are long gone. American culture today possesses no particular orientation to Truth. Without that anchor, the culture simply drifts, decays, and devolves.

Devoid of God's perspective, empty people will seek to fill in the blanks of their lives with whatever or whomever is at hand. People are seeking to hold it all together themselves, when, in fact, they were never meant to be their own point of integration. And although we have been trying since the Beginning to come up with a viable alternative to God as the center, Jesus alone is sufficient to that task.

The Christian worldview recognizes that people are image bearers of the living God and in His Creative wisdom, God made them explicitly male and female. We didn't come up with the idea of a man and woman being joined together in holy matrimony to become one flesh. That's God's idea and it's a reflection of the eternal relationship He has with the Church as the Bride of Christ. When we mess with gender, sex, and marriage we're messing with realities that belong to the purview of God. Again it comes down to me or Thee.

The Christian worldview also recognizes that God is sovereign over human life from conception to natural death – and to the life beyond death. For human beings to take life into their own hands, to act as if anyone but God could be sovereign over the life of another image bearer through abortion, human enslavement, or assisted suicide is pure idolatry.

Bible Reading & Questions

- 1. Have you ever been lost— in a city or in a fog or at sea? How did you find your way back to a point of reference you recognized or did you wait to be found?
- 2. **Read II Timothy 4:1-5.** Can you describe or point to current examples of what we read in 3 and 4? What is to be our response?

"

People are seeking to hold it all together themselves, when, in fact, they were never meant to be their own point of integration.

CHAPTER 4 I know something's wrong, but what's right?

We read a headline that breaks our heart or see an image that turns our stomach and we ask "what's wrong with us?" We see the evidence of brokenness all around us. We know the casualties and costs of war in the world, in the workplace, in our homes and in our hearts. We all know something is wrong. We know this is not the way it is supposed to be.

We imagine there must have been better times by some measures, but we also know that even in those "good old days" things were only relatively good and for relatively few. If we think about it long enough we come to the conclusion the last time things were actually good, objectively good, was in the days prior to the Fall. But we live so far from Eden it is hard to even imagine what objective goodness looked like, let alone felt like.

- What was it like to live in perfect harmony with God, the self, the other, and Creation?
- What was it like to walk with God and talk with Him, unashamed?
- What was it like to love in an atmosphere of total trust, free of suspicion?

Since the Fall, humanity has been playing what can be described as a game of Hide n' Seek. Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"

What's wrong with us and the world is we're still hiding from God. What's right is a world where we allow ourselves to be found and allow God to restore us to right relationship with Him, ourselves, one another, and the Creation He made for us to manage.

If you are a redeemed sinner, you have a story. And that story is the undeniable truth of the Gospel through which God desires to reach into the heart of another. Your story has the power to influence another person's perspective on life and themselves and God and eternity.

Share the dark valleys, the times of doubt, the wounds and wanderings. Your conversation partners know pain and they know loneliness. But God has wired them the same way He wired you and me— with a very deep desire for a restored relationship with Him. If you can tell your story and aren't afraid to show the path through the wilderness you wandered, you just may find they'll walk with you long enough to find the Way themselves.

- 1. **Read Genesis 3:1-11** and then **Psalm 139:7-10**. Why do we (humans) try to hide from God? What comfort do we have that it is impossible to do so?
- 2. What's your story? Share part of your story with the group. As you share, share a specific way the truth of the Gospel redeemed your thoughts, actions or relationships.



CHAPTER 5

The necessity of restoring the Word of God to its rightful place

During the Protestant Reformation, 500 years ago, a saying developed that when translated to English reads, "Reformed and always being reformed, according to the Word of God." By that the Reformers were declaring the Church is a living, dynamic body that continually changes. But they were clear those changes had parameters: notably, the Word of God. In the past 100 years in mainline denominations, the criterion of "according to the Word of God" has been dropped, creating reformations according to the ever-changing preferences of prevailing opinion.

When humanity becomes the standard of judgment, it is not only the Church that suffers, but the world. The Church has a rightful calling and it is not the temporal self-fulfillment nor sexual liberation of those who would see themselves as members of it. The Church is the Bride and the Body of Christ. She is not "ours" so much as she is His. God calls together and sends forth the Church to be a living demonstration of the Gospel of Jesus Christ so others might come to know Him and be saved. Everything else– yes, everything else, is secondary.

The Scriptures are formative, informative, restorative, and can be transformative. But we have to make rightful use of them in order for their power to be realized. As the Bible says, we must be doers of the Word and not hearers only. But what does that mean?

The interpretation of the Bible is a matter of seemingly endless debate. But it comes down to this: either God has spoken or He has not. If God has spoken, then what God says matters more than anything we feel, imagine or desire. If God has *not* spoken then a very great lie has been perpetrated and perpetuated for thousands of years.

Accepting that God is real and He has spoken puts us in a reciprocal relationship with Him. Accepting the Bible as the inspired inerrant Word of God requires us to respond. That response is in

the context of a relationship with God in which we grow in our understanding and ability to apply what God has said. Desiring to glorify Him and cause God joy becomes our life's pursuit and our heart's desire.

Like all relationships, this one requires mutual understanding. However, while God fully understands us, we do not fully understand God. The Bible is God's gift of revelation but the Bible admits that a person approaching the Bible with a natural mind only will be unable to understand much of what God says therein. By grace, God enables us by His own Spirit through valid hermeneutics to understand and know Him through the Scriptures. That should thrill our hearts!

- 1. **Read I Thessalonians 2:13.** How does receiving the Bible as the very words of God perform work in believers?
- 2. Read Job 23:10 and Psalm 19:10. What is standing in the way of your valuing God's Word as more important than your daily bread?

CHAPTER 6

Yes, it's personal

(and you should take it that way)

Those who receive Christ and believe on His name, the Bible tells us, become restored to their rightful relationship with God as children— born of God. That is the core identity of the Christian: child of God. Freed from the penalty of Sin which is death and freed from the power of Sin that enslaves in this life.

Part of the freedom that comes with the Gospel is the freedom to be selfless. Secure in the knowledge of who we are, whose we are, where we're going, and what we're promised, Christians are liberated in ways the world simply does not comprehend. We can rejoice in suffering. We can accept adversity. We expect persecution. We can sing in prison. We see things differently.

Children of God are sons and daughters of the King, citizens of the Kingdom, co-heirs with Christ of glory. That totally reshapes how we view our role and time on earth. We're not trying to make a name for ourselves so much as make the name of Jesus known to others. We're not living for ourselves so much as offering our lives as living sacrifices for God to use as He wills. We're not living for the accumulation of wealth so much as we're seeking for our time, talent, and resources to be spent by God in ways that advance the Gospel.

The ministry of reconciliation must be personal for us before we can take it to the culture at large. It is time we take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of us.

It's time we became more like Philly-Jesus. Who is Philly Jesus? He is a recovering heroin addict, who now walks the streets of Philadelphia dressed as Jesus might have in the first century. In the most literal way possible, he is seeking to represent Jesus to the people of Philadelphia.

We chuckle at him, but he's a provocative character in the conversation about counter-cultural Christianity and living our calling to show forth Christ to others. I am not advocating you go put on first century garb, but we need the kind of mind-shift that takes off the world and puts on Christ – without that, our Christianity is nothing but a put-on.

When we become Christians, we become representations of Jesus to the world. Until it becomes that personal and real, our hope to influence culture is going to be a fleshly mission carried out through human means.

Bible Reading & Questions

- 1. **Read Galatians 2:20.** What does a Galatians 2:20 person—someone who is dead to self and alive in Christ—look like in real life?
- 2. What does it mean to you to take off the world? Are there any parts of the world you are having trouble taking off?

"

The ministry of reconciliation must be personal for us before we can take it to the culture at large.

CHAPTER 7 The call to look up, suit up, and speak up

When we think about having conversations with people we already know, some of whom are in the church, we must recognize that some of the barriers that need to be torn down are institutional religious traditionalism, formalized ritualism, and cultural relativism. But on the personal level there are also layers of cynicism, doubt, defeatism, and worldly thinking that are contrary to the calling of presenting the truth accurately, substantively, and winsomely in whatever context we find ourselves. This is labor for which we must prepare ourselves spiritually, intellectually, and emotionally. So, let's get to it!

Look around you, scan the headlines, survey the city, the nation, the world. What do you see? You are alive right now because God intends to use you as an agent of His grace in the midst of the world He so loves. God can use you where you are, knowing what you know, having experienced what you have experienced to accomplish His glory. If you're as old as Abraham or as young as Daniel, if you're as compromised as Rahab or have a life as hard as the Samaritan woman Jesus met at the well, God can send you as a redeemed ambassador of the Kingdom of God to bear light in the kingdoms of this world.

It will not be easy. You may not get to be around to see the fruit. It runs completely counter to everything the world says matters. And it's an inexhaustible well of joy that springs up each new day with the certain knowledge you are doing what you were always made to do for the glory of the only One in the universe who ultimately matters. Unexplainable? Yes. But also undeniable.

We have infinitely more power than we access and infinitely more influence than we use. What difference would it make for you to intentionally engage with the people who are working on challenges like those listed above? I don't know, but I know when an ambassador from the Kingdom of Heaven is present, the conversation changes. People are treated with greater dignity. Words are less coarse. Proposals are more generous. Generative solutions are more numerous. Why? Because the Spirit of God is brought to bear and the spirit of the world is pressed down. The principle is simple and true: darkness cannot remain when light enters. The call is to go and be shiny.

- 1. **Read Ephesians 4:25-32** and **II Timothy 2:23-26**. What counsel do these passage offer for stepping into conversations with others?
- 2. Have you ever stepped into a conversation seeking to bear witness to the reality of God? If so, how did you feel afterwards? Why did you feel that way? If not, why not?



CHAPTER 8 Counteracting fake good news

Students of the Bible are familiar with a character known as the father of lies. He trades in deception and he is the adversary of all that is authentically good, beautiful, and true. The father of lies perverts our thinking. It is his oldest tactic and once his hooks are set in a human mind, changing that mind requires liberation from literal shackles of sin and death. People, following the lie and the liar, become convinced that what God has called good is not good. They grow confused about human identity, Creation, sexuality, and morality. People are also deceived into exchanging the truth about God for lies and truth itself is perverted.

Christians, who know the Truth, follow the One who is the Truth and have been set free by the Truth, find themselves declaring life in a culture of death, purity in a culture of debauchery, and truth in a culture convinced that truth is passé. The generation in which we live is actually labeled post-truth and fake news is a problem recognized by even those who say there is no absolute truth.

Christians are charged with representing Christ to this culture, here and now. Why should anyone believe us? How do we establish trust, earn the right to be heard, and speak The Truth in a culture where the father of lies has so many operatives?

Trust is key. So, can people trust you? Can they trust you to tell the Truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God? Can they trust you to be a person not only of your word but a person of The Word? And can you be trusted to keep it?

Beyond establishing trust, we also have to figure out how to gain a hearing. Our culture is abuzz with information, so how do we grab the attention of a selfie culture that wants to see and be seen? We put God on display. We become living demonstrations of the fullness of the Gospel in all its beauty and truth. But the father of lies has recruited a pantheon of colorful characters competing for the world's attention and affection. Contributing to the confusion is the cold hard fact that history is riddled with times and places in which God was openly mischaracterized and His Word so misrepresented that God was not only misunderstood but maligned. Jesus spoke millstone condemnation upon those who would so mislead people from the Truth, but we face the challenge of undoing what the faker's hath wrought.

Those half-truths and outright lies lead people to believe things which are not true and they become captive to the father of lies. They mistrust who God is, what He has done, what He wants and why He matters. The role of the Christian then is to confront and unmask the caricatures of God masquerading in the culture. And to replace them with living demonstrations of the fullness of the Gospel so the world may know who God really is.

- 1. **Read Jude 17-23.** What does this passage say about how we are to treat those who doubt the truth of the gospel? How will that affect our conversations with them?
- 2. Think of someone that you trust fully and would talk to about anything. Why do you trust them? What characteristics do they have?

CHAPTER 9 Offering a reorientation to truth consistent with reality

In the Beginning, before He created anything that is seen, God made seeing possible by the creation of light. The very idea that light had to be called forth and spoken into reality gives an indication of just how dark darkness can be. Quite literally without light, we cannot see. By God's creative genius He gives us the physical reality of light to also illuminate a deep spiritual truth: without the Light, we cannot see.

Most people today are spiritually blind. They lack awareness of the Light by which to accurately see God, themselves and the world around them. Into the darkness of their present disorientation and desperation, we shine as those who bear the good news of the Light of the Gospel.

If you've ever been in a very dark room for a very long time you know how painful and even frightening it can be for the light to suddenly shine. We must keep this in mind as we enter conversations with others.

The words of Jesus in John 3 make clear God knows once we are aware of the light, we become aware of the darkness. That is a moment of truth. At that moment, and in every subsequent moment, we choose: the darkness or the light? The father of lies or the Truth? The way of destruction or the Way and the Life? We cannot have it both ways and Jesus is the dividing line. Judgmental? Yes, read the passage again. This is judgment, articulated by the Judge. Those who would set themselves in judgment over Him are not only in darkness, they are agents of it.

We have known darkness and now, by God's grace, we know light and the lightness of being. But the darkness persists and many of our neighbors continue to live without a knowledge of the light. That's where we come in. We are now charged with walking into the darkness with the light of Christ by the same Spirit with whom Jesus left the glory of Heaven and took on all the darkness of human reality so we might be redeemed. That's how much He loves us and that is how much He calls us to love others. If we began to see our neighbors not as bad people, but as people who are born into, raised, and living in deep darkness, our hearts would break at the fear, dread, and hopelessness they are experiencing. Imagine if darkness were all you ever knew?

Darkness is disorienting. In the darkness of depression, depravity, abuse, fatigue, need, and loneliness, people will grasp at anything for comfort, meaning, and hope. When the Church and her people are not there to bear witness to the reality of God's goodness, beauty, and truth, the Enemy will fill hands and hearts and minds and lives with lesser things.

Bible Reading & Questions

- 1. How does the reality that many people are living spiritually blind change the way you think about your daily conversations?
- 2. **Read John 3:16-21.** How can we be shiny without causing people to run for cover?

"

By God's creative genius He gives us the physical reality of light to also illuminate a deep spiritual truth: without the Light, we cannot see.

CHAPTER 10

Getting God back into every conversation by reconnecting the eternal with the everyday

When Jesus entered a conversation the conversation changed. Every time. I can imagine there were lots of occasions when people said, "What were we talking about before He got here?" And others would respond, "I can't remember." Because what they were talking about after the fact was Jesus.

Jesus spoke with people, He didn't speak to issues. Why is that? Because for Jesus the issue is always the same: the issue is redemption. We can learn a lot from the way He reframed conversations to help others see the supernatural and eternal perspective on temporal realities. How can we do that in our everyday conversations?

Open any digital news source or any newspaper and the headlines will supply fodder for worldview conversations.

The front page is replete with wars and rumors of wars, politics both national, local, and personal. There are issues related to science, technology, healthcare, education, entertainment, politics, sex, drugs, violence, racial division, and yes, sometimes overt stories about religion. As Bob Smietana once told me, "every story has a religion angle, you just have to know where to look."

So, look at the Op Ed, Science, Lifestyle, Obituaries, Comics, Sports, and Personals and bring the Christian worldview to bear on what people are saying, how events are described, how things are characterized. We can talk about anything with relevance and truth because God is real and relevant and true.

We practically get God back into every conversation by being fishers of men and finding the right hook. There's a reason they call fishermen anglers. So, where's the angle that reconnects the miraculous to the mundane and the eternal with the everyday? Every conversation is about God because God is always the issue. Life, death, taxes, dating, marriage, work, worth, money, sex, power— God cares about all of it because God cares about the people affected by it.

What would happen to our conversations if we entered every encounter with another person— every encounter— as a potential divine appointment God set for that day? What if our eyes were continually scanning the environment for people in need of encouragement, blessing, hope, help, or a simple smile? What might happen if we cast the seed of God's love as lavishly as the sower who went out to sow?

- 1. **Read John 4.** How does Jesus model for us the ability to turn any conversation (like drawing water in the midday heat) into an eternal conversation?
- 2. Choose a headline from your newsfeed and just practice finding the God angle. Where is the hook that reconnects the mundane to the miraculous? What does the story say about life, death, humanity, love, justice, sin, forgiveness or what Biblical reference is hiding in plain site?

CONCLUSION

Jesus is the Way and the Truth and the Life. For Christians there is not an alternative to telling the Truth and bearing witness to the Truth in all circumstances. Does it get us into trouble in this world? Sometimes, but to do anything other than Speak the Truth is to betray the very One whose name we bear.

Big moments of truth come only a few times in a given life. But smaller moments of truth come quite frequently. We know the dramatic testimonies of Moses at the burning bush and Paul on the road to Damascus, Daniel facing the prospect of the lion's den, Mary's visit from the angel Gabriel, and Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane. Each faced a moment of truth. But most of life is far more mundane, routine and yes, conversational.

There's a moment of truth when we're standing in line and the person in front of us doesn't have quite enough to pay for what they need. There's a moment of truth when traffic is snarled and our response is a testimony to those in the backseat and all around us on the road. There's a moment of truth every time we don't get exactly what we ordered in a restaurant. There's a moment of truth when the options on the TV screen list everything from that which is rated G to XXX. There's a moment of truth every time we log on to the internet. There's a moment of truth when the phone rings, the milk is spilled, the tire is flat, the rain falls, the rent is due, the pressure rises, the alarm rings. In this moment of truth, who will I be? How will I respond? What spirit will be revealed? What words will I speak? Which kingdom will I represent?

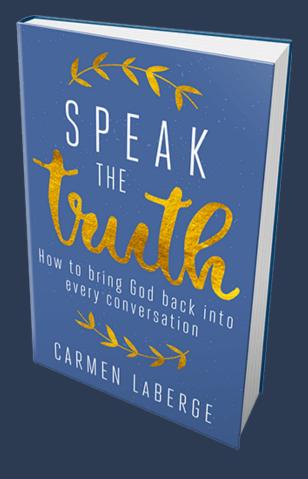
Every moment is a moment of truth. No, not the dramatic "everything hangs on this decision, hinge of history" kind of moment of truth, but a moment of truth none-the-less. In this very moment, is your mind conformed to the mind of Christ? In this moment, does your heart belong to God? In this moment, are you ready and willing to follow the Spirit's lead?

This is your moment and this is a moment of truth!

GET THE BOOK: Speak the Truth

This study was adapted from Carmen's book, Speak the Truth, which includes expanded content and topics, additional study questions and conversation tools.

Find more information and order <u>online</u>.



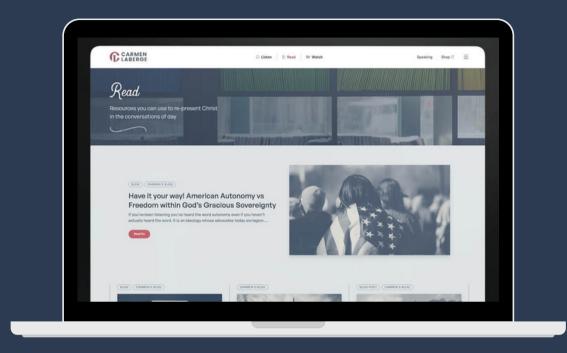
About the Author Carmen LaBerge



Carmen LaBerge is an author, speaker, Christian talk radio host and what she calls a "conversational apologist." She talks about the real issues real Christians face in real life in the real world. Her work helps you cultivate and apply the mind of Christ in today's conversations so you can walk your faith out in the world that God so loves in ways that honor Jesus.

She hosts <u>Mornings with Carmen LaBerge</u>, heard live Monday-Friday, 7-9 a.m. nationwide on The Faith Radio Network, and streaming at <u>MyFaithRadio.com</u> and via the Faith Radio app. The daily show is also available as a podcast wherever you find them.





KEEP THE CONVERSATION GOING

We have opportunities to *re*-present Christ to those around us every day. Are you ready?

On our website, find timely articles, resources, interviews and insight on current events to help cultivate the mind of Christ— so that we might apply it to every situation and conversation.

MORE RESOURCES

<u>CARMENLABERGE.COM</u>