



PART 7: BRUTAL HONESTY ABOUT NORMAL

INTRODUCTION

As we start a brand new year it's exciting, but there's also something that feels unsettling. There's a tension going on inside of us that's emotionally and spiritually exhausting. Every day can feel like a battle to stay faithful to God, because we *are* in a battle. There is a war going on...it's a war on lies. It's not so much that we *tell* lies, but that we *live* them. But God gives us a strategy to recognize and resist the enemy and experience victory every day!

KEY SCRIPTURE

John 17:14-18

Genesis 3:1-6

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. On a scale of zero (least) to ten (highest), where would the degree of your love for the world fall? Why?
2. Pastor Will shared a definition of "The World" given by Dallas Willard: "Our cultural and social practices, that are under the control of Satan, and thus opposed to God." What cultural and societal practices would you say are of "the world" according to this definition?
3. Read John 17:16. How have you felt the tension between being in the world and being of the world?
4. To illustrate the power of social contagion, Pastor Will shared a quote from Renee DiResta: "If you make it trend, you make it true." What are some trends in the world that society has accepted as true? How have you responded to these trends? How do you reconcile your response with what Jesus says in John 17:17?
5. Where are you being most influenced by the world to compromise God's truth? What steps can you take to allow God's truth to become your truth?

MOVING FORWARD

Application Prayer: Father, help me to recognize where I am being influenced by the world to compromise your truth. May your truth become my truth.