



After the assassination of Charlie Kirk, many are feeling grief, anger, and sadness. Paul asked the Galatians, “Have I therefore become your enemy because I tell you the truth?” (Galatians 4:16). Unfortunately, when we live the truth and tell the truth, many will see us as their enemy. Jesus said that some will even hate us (John 15:18–19). Nevertheless, God calls us to love people, to be bold ambassadors of the truth, and to be unashamed of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It’s time for the church to be the voice of Biblical truth to a dark and evil world!

1. Lessons from Charlie Kirk
 - a. The unpopular truth
 - i. Kirk was only controversial because his Biblical views shaped his political views, which confronted cultural views.
 1. We must love people enough to speak hard truths.
 2. **DISCUSS**: How has the Bible changed your worldview?
 - b. The right to free speech
 - i. Kirk believed in the right to free speech and wanted to engage with those who disagreed with him, and for that he was murdered.
 1. The coward who assassinated Charlie Kirk rather than debate him cannot stamp out the truth.
 2. To fight words with violence is evil and demonic.
 3. **DISCUSS**: Are you willing to converse with those who disagree with you? How do you respond when you realize you are wrong about an issue?
 - c. The growing violence
 - i. Satan is always at work to incite people toward evil.
 1. Some democrats objected to the suggestion on the House floor of Congress to pray for Charlie Kirk’s family.
 2. Some on social media have cheered on the murder of Charlie Kirk.
 3. **Matthew 5:11–12** – *“Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”*
 - a. Prophets who spoke what people refused to hear have historically faced great persecution, even unto death.
2. **Galatians 4:16** – *“Have I therefore become your enemy because I tell you the truth?”*

- a. Truth-tellers
 - i. If we speak the truth and live the truth, we will have enemies.
 1. **John 15:18–19** – *“If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.”*
 - ii. We should not regard people who disagree with us as enemies, but often those who speak hard truths are regarded as enemies.
 1. **John 3:20** – *“Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed.”* (NIV)
 2. **DISCUSS:** How do you view those who disagree with you? How do we courageously act as truth-tellers in a world that hates the truth and those who tell it?
 3. **DISCUSS:** Do you remember who the true enemy is (**Ephesians 6:12**)? How do you fight in a spiritual war (**Ephesians 6:13–18**)?
 - b. A rhetorical question
 - i. Paul was not accusing Believers in Galatia of being his enemies.
 - ii. Paul was asking a rhetorical question so that the Galatians would not be offended by the hard truth he was giving them.
 1. Paul was telling the Christians at Galatia the truth out of a heart of love.
 2. **DISCUSS:** Do you care more about people’s souls than your popularity? When has God called you to speak the truth in love?
 - c. **John 8:36** – *“Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.”*
 - i. If we believe that the truth frees people from guilt, shame, addiction, identity confusion, and sin, then we ought to share the Gospel boldly.
 1. **DISCUSS:** How has the truth of the Gospel freed you?
3. Defining truth
 - a. The question
 - i. Before sentencing Jesus to execution by crucifixion, Pontius Pilate asked Him, *“What is truth?”* (**John 18:38**).
 - b. The answer
 - i. Jesus is the personification of truth.
 1. **John 18:37** – *“For this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.”* (1984 NIV)
 2. **John 1:14** – *“The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”*
 3. **DISCUSS:** Are you on the side of truth? How is that evident in the ways God is Lord of your life?
 - ii. As Christians, we know Jesus to be the moral and objective standard for what is good and what is evil.

1. Christ reveals in His Word what is right and wrong, and we follow His Lordship.
 2. Christ shows us how to speak, conduct business, think of our sexuality and identity, etc.
 3. **DISCUSS**: When have you had to change your understanding of an issue based on the Word of God?
- iii. Those who do not know Jesus have no objective moral standard, so “self” becomes the god through whom they evaluate all else.
1. The god of “self” is why we have people saying, “your truth” or “my truth.”
 2. God’s truth confronts and convicts those who make themselves the god of their lives.
 3. Denzel Washington, an actor-turned-preacher, said, “Some people will never like you because your spirit irritates their demons.”

4. Loving people

- a. We must love others more than we love ourselves.
 - i. Sometimes the truth offends people, but they must hear the Gospel to be saved too.
 - ii. Sometimes people will be so offended that they go after you, and perhaps they succeed.
- iii. Love Jesus and love people more than your own life.
- iv. **Philippians 1:21** – *“For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.”*
 1. Paul did not have a death wish, but he was happy to serve Christ in whatever state he was in.
 - a. For Believers, death is not the end.
 2. Use the time God has given you well.
 3. **DISCUSS**: How are you spending your free time? Does that use of time honor the Lord?

5. Looking to Jesus

- a. Do not make idols out of men.
 - i. Eyes on Jesus
 1. Let godly people inspire you, but fix your eyes on Jesus.
 2. **DISCUSS**: Do you tend to idolize people? How has God been teaching you to focus on Him instead?
 - ii. Paul and Barnabas
 1. Paul and Barnabas preached to the pagans at Lystra and, by the power of God, healed a lame man among them.
 2. Unfortunately, the people tried to sacrifice to the disciples, thinking them Zeus and Hermes.
 3. Paul and Barnabas barely stopped them, saying, *“Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men with the same nature*

as you, and preach to you that you should turn from these useless things to the living God, who made the heaven, the earth, the sea, and all things that are in them” (Acts 14:15).

6. Taking the mantle

a. Our call

- i. God calls us to be bold, unashamed ambassadors of Christ.

b. Paul’s boldness

- i. While imprisoned in Rome, Paul wrote Ephesians.
- ii. **Ephesians 6:19–20** – *“Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.”* (1984 NIV)
 1. Paul knew the cost of being bold for God’s glory. A few years after he wrote Ephesians, he was beheaded for his faith.
- iii. Do not be intimidated by evil.
 1. **Romans 1:16** – *“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.”*

* Unless noted, all Scriptures quoted are from the New King James (NKJV)