

FURPHY: *Community* comes from the words *Common-unity*

The church propagates many furphies¹. Here's one of the newest ones: "Community comes from the words 'common' & 'unity'"

If you do an internet search you won't find a connection between 'community' and 'common unity' in any encyclopedia or dictionary. The expression, "community comes from common unity" is actually a buzzphrase that Christians have concocted.

Many Christians state in writing and in talks that 'community' comes from the joining of the two words 'common' and 'unity'. It is the latest ploy to bring unity into the church's thoughts because 'local community' is gaining in popularity in Western culture. To draw believer's attention to the need for unity, church leaders use this expression so that they are tricked into desiring unity as a natural outworking of local community.

Actually, the origin of the English word 'community' according to some online dictionaries is:

- Middle English *comunete*, from Anglo-French *communité*, from Latin *communitat-*, *communitas*, from *communis*.²
- Late Middle English: from Old French *comunete*, reinforced by its source, Latin *communitas*, from *communis* [see 'common' for meaning].³
- Latin *commūnitās*, equivalent to *commūni(s)* ('common') + *-tās* *-ty*; replacing Middle English *comunete* < Middle French < Latin as above.⁴
- Middle English *communitē* ('citizenry'), from Old French, from Latin *commūnitās* ('fellowship') from *commūnis* ('common'); [see 'common' for meaning].⁵

"Community comes from common unity" is a furphy. Furphies are nothing but falsities – lies in reality – that are propagated for religious or church purposes. Lies of any sort are not a Kingdom method of speaking, no matter what the reason. Like, "Eat your crust and it'll make your hair curly", Furphies are created to passively manipulate people for 'good' purposes.

So, please don't repeat the expression "Community comes from common unity" as you'll be propagating a falsity and showing ignorance if you do.

Here are some other common ones I've heard:

1. The bible teaches us to save our bodies for our future partner by not having sex before marriage.
2. Jesus went got up early every day to spend time in prayer. (NB: Only one instance – Mark 1:35)
3. Cleanliness is next to godliness.
4. Money is the root of all evil.

Lilly Dunn in her article "4 Lies the Church Taught Me About Sex"⁶ shows how disastrous some of these Christian furphies can be. Here's what she was taught:

1. Any and all physical contact is like a gateway drug to sex.
2. If you wait until you are married to have sex, God will reward you with mind-blowing sex and a magical wedding night.
3. Girls don't care about sex.
4. When you get married, you will immediately be able to fully express yourself sexually without guilt or shame.

1 – FURPHY: A furphy is Australian slang for a rumour, or an erroneous or improbable story, but usually claimed to be absolute fact. Furphies are usually heard first or secondhand from reputable sources and, until discounted, widely believed. (*en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Furphy*)
2 – www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/community
3 – www.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/english/community
4 – dictionary.reference.com/browse/community
5 – www.thefreedictionary.com/community
6 – Lilly Dunn () www.relevantmagazine.com/life/relationships/4-lies-church-taught-us-about-sex

Here are 5 lies Christians are told:⁷

1. Some sins are worse than others.
2. God is not OK with doubt and anger.
3. God's love for me is determined by my behaviour.
4. We should never 'water down' the message.
5. God wants me to be happy.

Here are 5 lies Christians believe,⁸

1. We are invincible
2. We must always say "yes"
3. Success is measured by numbers
4. The pastor is always right
5. We must be perfect

So, you can see, the church propagates lies, as parents do for the 'good' of their children. Rather than teach them the hard truths, they 'lolly-coat' them with untruths to make them palatable.

IMPORTANT: Kingdom citizens should speak the truth, with no hint of falsehood or deceit, however desirable an expression's outcome might be. We are to speak simply, plainly and honestly, always meaning what we say, as Jesus taught us:⁹

Matthew 5:37 (PHILLIPS) – Whatever you have to say let your 'yes' be a plain 'yes' and your 'no' a plain 'no'—anything more than this has a taint of evil.

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7 – Frank Powell (27-8-2014) "5 lies Christians are Told" (www.relevantmagazine.com/god/5-lies-christians-are-told)

8 – Jessica Morris (7-8-2013) "5 lies Christians Believe" (www.relevantmagazine.com/god/5-lies-christians-believe)

9 – See also Matthew 5:37 (WEB, NHEB, CJB)