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READING OUR BIBLES AND NEWSPAPERS by Rev. Daniel J. Commerford

“Take your Bible and take your newspaper, and read both. But interpret newspapers from your Bible.” – Karl Barth

After a recent major political story was made public, I was surprised to come across an article from a popular news organization that was entirely devoted to reporting how other news organizations were not adequately responding to the story. That’s right. The article did not try to report on the story itself, but rather sought to discredit the perspective of rival news sources. This is the latest development in what has become a war between news organizations trying to offer their perspective on what is happening in our

world. Because America is a land that is as diverse as it is big, we have access to many news sources that support widely differing perspectives.

Now more than ever, it is easy for us to decide what we believe before finding a source of information that confirms our beliefs. This is a process known as confirmation bias. The problem with confirmation bias is that it makes it impossible to grow. Instead, we isolate ourselves within our own set of beliefs and only associate with those who won’t disagree with us, choking opportunity for meaningful growth.

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