



Sermon Series: Confident in the Face of Hard Questions

To be used with Session 1: Does it Really Matter Which “Truth” I Believe?

Sermon Title Possibilities: Real Truth

Scripture: John 3:19-21; 8:31-36

Connection with Unit Theme: To complement the Bible study “Confident in the Face of Hard Questions” this sermon teaches us that against the beliefs of our culture, there are absolute truths. For example, it is an absolute truth that two plus two equals four, and no matter how you debate that fact, it cannot be changed. Scripture points us to undisputable truths that are found in Jesus Christ.

Introduction: Amazingly, some people will see a purple sky and say it orange. Even though the truth is right before them, they choose what is not truth. Closer to where we live, people have voiced an array of opinions about Covid-19 vaccines. Many people believe the Covid-19 vaccines have dangerous side effects. Moreover, according to Pew Research, 62 percent of Americans say the positives of Covid-19 vaccines outweigh any negatives, and the CDC declares no long-term effects have been detected from taking any type of vaccines. How do we determine which is true? Apart from obvious criterium or scientific study, it would be difficult. When we read the Word, truth will never be an issue. One of the characteristics of God is He cannot lie (Heb. 6:18). Therefore, since the Scripture was inspired by Him (2 Tim. 3:16-17), we know that everything we read in it is true.

1. Live by the Truth (John 3:19-21).

In John 14:6, Jesus said, “I am the way, the truth, and the life.” Jesus wanted His disciples and other listening to know that He was the standard to righteousness. Whether then living by the Mosaic law, they needed to recognize first, that the law could not provide them with eternal life, and second, the law could not transform their lives. Eternal life and spiritual growth required the truth that Jesus brought into the world. He came as light into a world that had been darkened by sin. Jesus brought the reflection of God and shined God’s light into every heart that received Him as their Lord and Savior. We have been challenged to try Jesus’s way of living. It is totally different from what the world offers. Life in the light of Christ is a life of truth and holiness.

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2. True Discipleship (John 8:31).

In John 8, Jesus speaks to the crowds of people that followed Him about what it means to follow Him. He reiterated that He was the light of the world. He wants people who follow Him to know that we are His disciples. A disciple is a person who follows and learns from his or her teacher. Jesus identified His disciples as those who follow Him faithfully. He exhorted that if they followed Him, that is accepted His word, then they must continue to live in what they were learning. This was the mark of a true disciple.

3. True Freedom (John 8:32).

Jesus wanted His disciples to know the result of becoming His disciple and living according to what He taught. He said, “You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” Knowing truth is the issue that is being addressed in these verses. Knowing truth must be accepted as a goal of His followers so that darkness will be dispelled. Knowing truth will free you from any connectivity we have to the world. Freedom is the result of following the truth and abiding in the truth of Word of God. Freedom means we are no longer bound by the sinfulness of the world. We are made from the power of sin.

Conclusion: In a world where there are many opinions about different issues, it’s difficult to discover the truth. Even a judge in a court of law would need extensive evidence and testimonies to pronounce the truth. However, much of the truth for which our culture seeks is found in the pages of Scripture. The truth of this is found in the nature of the One we serve. Our God is a God of righteousness who sent His Son, the light of righteousness into a dark world, so that those who follow Jesus will live in truth.

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