



further
reflections



March 8, 2026

The Truth of Jesus

John 8:31-47; Psalm 4

1. The bible records eight times when Jesus spoke a difficult or inconvenient truth, and people immediately plotted to take his life. Jesus was constantly targeted for speaking truth. Have you ever felt targeted in some manner for speaking an uncomfortable truth?
2. In John 8:31-32 Jesus addresses some who are starting to believe in him, saying *“If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”* How did the people respond? How *should* they have responded? What kept them from *fully* embracing the truth of Jesus?
3. Read Psalm 4:1. Beyond John 8, what are some other times in his life that Jesus may have prayed this verse? How might Psalm 4:1 be a model for your prayer life, especially in times of distress?
4. Read John 8:39 and 8:41. What did they not understand with these statements?
5. Read John 8:47. What are your thoughts on what Jesus says here?
6. Read John 8:48-52. Why do people stuck in losing arguments so frequently resort to name-calling and juvenile insults? How does Jesus’ response inspire what our response should be when facing these sorts of insults?
7. Read John 8:58-59. Describe how in the space of 30 verses, the people moved from starting to believe Jesus to wanting to kill Jesus?
8. Talk in your group about how you might pray through Psalm 4 when facing difficult challenges?