

Amazing What “The Truth” Teaches Us

By: David Sproule

More than 60 times in the New Testament the definite article “the” is found before the word “truth,” to emphasize the single, absolute and distinctive nature of Divine truth. The plural form of “truths” is never found in Scripture, which again would seem to be God’s way of emphasizing the single, absolute and distinctive nature of Divine truth. Let’s examine what we can learn about “the truth” from the usage of that expression in the N.T.

Through the work and guidance of the Holy Spirit, “all the truth” has been given to us in Scripture (John 16:13). Knowing that we can trust it (for, it is “the truth”) and knowing that we are not missing anything God intended for us to have (for, it is “ALL the truth”), we must come to Scripture with the utmost respect for how God expects us to respond.

First of all, consider that there are devastating ways in which man may respond to “the truth.” Scripture affirms that “the truth” can be (but should not be) “suppressed” (Rom. 1:18), “exchanged for the lie” (Rom. 1:25), “rejected” (Rom. 2:8), “withheld” (1 Tim 6:5), “opposed” (2 Tim. 3:8), “strayed from” (2 Tim. 2:18; Jas. 5:19), “turned from” (2 Tim. 4:4; Tit. 1:14) and “lied against” (Jas. 3:14). May God help us to never treat “the truth” or act toward “the truth” in these ways.

Even more so, Scripture makes it very clear that “the truth” can and needs to dwell or abide in us

(1 John 1:8; 2:4; 2 John 2; 3 John 3), in order that we might respond properly and as Divinely expected. “The truth” can be and needs to be (but, because of freewill, it doesn’t have to be) “heard” (Col. 1:5), “known” (John 8:32; 1 Tim. 2:4; 1 Tim. 4:3; 2 Tim. 2:25; 3:7; Tit. 1:1; Heb. 10:26; 1 John 2:21; 2 John 1), “believed” (2 Thess. 2:12-13; 1 Tim. 4:3), “loved” (2 Thess. 2:10), “obeyed” (Gal. 3:1; 1 Pet. 1:22), “practiced” (John 3:21; 1 John 1:6), “manifested” (2 Cor. 4:2), “lived” (Gal. 2:14), “told” (John 8:45-46; John 16:7; Rom. 9:1; Gal. 5:7), “spoken” (2 Cor. 12:6; Eph. 4:15; 1 Tim. 2:7), “established in” (2 Pet. 1:12), “stood in” (John 8:44), “walked in” (3 John 3-4), “turned back to” (Jas. 5:19) and “worked for” (3 John 8).

When we respond properly to “the truth,” Scripture reveals the power of the single, absolute and distinctive truth. It “makes us free” (John 8:32), “sanctifies” (John 17:17, 19), “purifies” (1 Pet. 1:22) and “testifies” of our faithfulness as we comply (3 John 12).

There is much for us to learn from and about “the truth.” May we be reminded that apart from Jesus, who is “the truth” (John 14:6), there is no truth! His truth is not relative or multiple choice! It is absolute and powerful!

Quiz: How Do I Really Know?

By: Selected

There used to be these things called magazines, paper publishing that came out monthly. In some of those magazines that targeted women and teen girls there were tests. Some of the popular ones were: “Does your crush secretly love you?” or “Are you really best friends?” and “Which Disney princess are you?” While these are not meant to be scientific evaluations, there is some truth to the questions. This quiz is to help evaluate our love toward God.

Quiz, how do I know I really love God?

1. Do I seek His companionship?

The companionship we can offer God is through worship, assembling with those that worship God (Heb. 10:25). Another form of companionship is through prayer. How often do we pray that is not connected with food? We ought to “always pray and not lose heart” (Luke 18:1). “Always praying” and “without ceasing” are emphasized in Scripture (Eph. 6:1; 1 Thess. 5:17). Companionship can be sought in Scripture, reading and listening to God’s wisdom (Rom. 7:22).

2. Am I happy over this relationship?

There is a spirit of rejoicing that comes with first entering into a relationship with God (Acts 8:39; 16:34). We see that in new converts, but has our rejoicing waned? “Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!” (Phil. 4:4).

3. Do we have things in common?

Can I say that I love the things He loves (1 John 5:3)? Can I say that I hate the things He

hates (Prov. 6:16-19). If we love God, then we need to have these things in common.

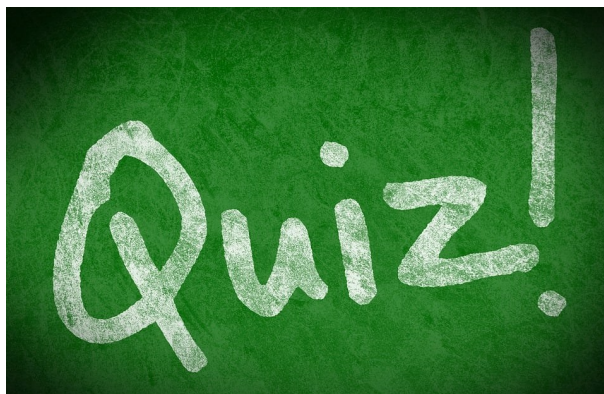
4. Do I trust Him?

This is a tremendous problem in many relationships. Trust is something that is earned over time. God, throughout all time has proven Himself to be trustworthy. “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight” (Prov. 3:5-6). “Have faith in God” (Mark 11:22).

5. Do I gladly give Him gifts?

Am I willing to share what I have? It was God’s to begin with. “Each one must do just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Cor. 9:7). Some have chosen to rob God (Mal. 3:8). Our gifts prove the sincerity of our love (2 Cor. 8:8).

While this is not the entirety of the quiz, we can see how helpful it is to take a moment and evaluate the question. He loved us even when we were unlovable (Rom. 5:8).



Upcoming Events

Sun. Sept. 7: Monthly potluck luncheon. We will also have awards for the Youth Summer Series at this time and a 12:45pm afternoon service to follow.

Sun. Sept. 14: Monthly youth devo after evening worship hosted by the Cammocks. Boys bring drinks, girls bring desserts.

Sat. Sept. 27: Save the date for a Men’s Lunch here at the building. Please see Doug Jobes for more detail.

Area events:

Area events/details are posted on the bulletin board in the hallway. Please check them out.

Prayer List

Prayer Requests:

Amy Sylva’s father Ruben. His health is declining.

Pam Stryker who had eye surgery last week.

Members

Jeff Cannady, Jerry FitzSimmons, James Hicks, and Veronica Serenil.

New Bible Class Quarter begins Sept. 3! On Sunday’s, Ron White will be teaching the adult class with the topic—Book of Revelation.

Parking Lot Update:
The parking lot has cured enough for use as of today.

EVANGELISM TRAINING

Sundays at 4 PM* at the church building throughout August

August 3 – Pew Greeter Training *(12:15 PM)

August 10 – Bible Study Leader Training, part 1

August 17 – Bible Study Leader Training, part 2

August 24 – Compassion Card Follow-up Training

August 31 – Mentoring New Converts Training



Service Roster

Week of August 31, 2025

Sunday Morning

Scripture Reading..... Jeff Cannady
Song Leader Jack Jobes

Opening Prayer..... Ron White
Closing Prayer..... James Cammock

Lord’s Supper & Offering

Bread..... Benny Horton
Cup..... Mike Atkinson
Offering..... Jake Jacobs
Assist..... Bryce Dolan
Assist..... Dan Fielder
Assist..... Willie Fossati

Sunday Evening

Song Leader Kirk FitzSimmons

Opening Prayer..... Ron White
Closing Prayer..... Clifton Rutherford

Lord’s Supper & Offering..... Bryce Dolan/
Benny Horton

Wednesday Evening

Adult Class Cody McCoy
Song Leader Luke FitzSimmons
Devotional Benny Horton

Other

Prepare Communion for Sept.- Kaspar & Mericle

Congregational News This Week

Birthdays

Barbara Withers..... Aug. 31

If you have any prayer requests, upcoming events to be announced, or updates/corrections please contact our secretary, Nina Siegel, at (361) 573-0030 or email office.midtownchurch@gmail.com

Our Elders

Mark FitzSimmons
Ron White

Our Deacons

James Cammock—Evangelism
Lupe Escojido— Benevolence
Doug Jobes—Safety, Men's Encouragement &
Winter Youth Retreat
Kevin Sheeran—Worship Organization and
Communication
Bryant Siegel—Education and Finance

Our Minister

Cody McCoy

Weekly Reading

Trust in the Lord forever.
Isaiah 26:4

Service Times

Sunday Morning Bible Class.....9:00 A.M.
Sunday Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening Worship.....5:00 P.M.
Wednesday Bible Class.....7:00 P.M.

Attendance Records

Week of August 24, 2025

A.M. Bible Class.....72
A.M. Worship.....106
P.M. Worship.....59
Wednesday Worship.....54

*Financial information is located on the bulletin
board in the hallway.*

Supported Works

John & Carla Moore *Bible Land Passages*

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