

C3 LEADERS QUESTIONS  
S2021-WEEK 11 FINAL  
4/11/21

**Getting Started with a Warm-Up:**

- As you reflect back over this semester, from week 1 - 1/31/21 to the present, please share with the group any of the following: 1) How were you blessed from your C3 group? 2) What prayers has God answered? 3) What have you learned from your time with your C3 group? 4) Was there anything else significant from your time with your C3 group?

**Getting Down to Business:**

The following questions are following this format: Scripture/Observation, Application, and Prayer (SOAP).

**1) Scripture/Observation:**

- Read Proverbs 12:17, 19. What characteristic or idea of truth can we learn from this passage?

“17 An honest witness tells the truth; a false witness tells lies...19 Truthful words stand the test of time, but lies are soon exposed”. (Proverbs 12:17, 19, NLT)

- Truthful words stand the test of time. Because they are true, and will remain as such a characteristic of truth. This is true for all time and for all people.

I. Lying (12:17–22)

God hates a lying tongue (6:16–17). Sometimes a lying tongue is only covering up sin in the heart (10:18), such as we see in Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5) and Judas (John 12:1–8). In 12:18, Solomon suggests that lies are like cutting swords, but the truth is like a healing medicine. The truth is eternal, but lies will one day be revealed and the liars judged (v. 19).

Wiersbe, W. W. (1993). *Wiersbe's Expository Outlines on the Old Testament* (Pr 12:17–22). Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

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- Read John 14:6. What does this passage say about claims that are contradictory to what Jesus says?

“Jesus told him, ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me’”. (John 4:16, NLT)

- Any claims that contradict His statement are false.

### NIV Application Commentary

Jesus’ answer in 14:6 is the premier expression of the theology of this entire Gospel: “Jesus answered, ‘I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.’” Of the three terms, emphasis surely falls on the first, “the way.” Access to the Father’s presence in heaven will only be through Jesus and no other. He is the only one who can lead his followers back to the places he will prepare.

This is the case because Jesus is the truth, the authoritative representative and revealer of God. He hears what God says and obeys what God tells him to do (5:19; 8:29). He discloses God exhaustively unlike anyone else can because he has seen God (1:18). Those who follow Jesus, who come to the Father through his “way,” will be the ones who gain eternal “life” (cf. 11:25, “I am the resurrection and the life”). Thus, this verse places Jesus in the role of mediator, creating the only avenue to God. Bruce has written, “All truth is God’s truth, as all life is God’s life; but God’s truth and God’s life are incarnate in Jesus.”

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+14&version=NLT>

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- Read Ephesians 4:15. What three ideas about truth can be found in this passage?

“Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church”. (Ephesians 4:15, NLT)

- It assumes that the truth can be known.
- The truth should be communicated.
- The truth should be communicated in love (for the benefit of another).

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- Read Ephesians 4:25. How would this verse refute a person who claims that you can't know the truth?

“So stop telling lies. Let us tell our neighbors the truth, for we are all parts of the same body”. (Ephesians 4:25, NLT)

- You need to know the truth in order to stop telling a lie--if there's no truth how do you know you are lying?

Lying (v. 25). A lie is a statement that is contrary to fact, spoken with the intent to deceive. If I tell you it is noon, and then discover that my watch is wrong, I did not tell a lie. But if I gave you the wrong time so you would be late to a meeting and I would benefit from it, that would be a lie. Satan is a liar (John 8:44); and he wants us to believe that God is a liar. “Yea, hath God said?” (Gen. 3:1) Whenever we speak truth, the Spirit of God works, but whenever we tell a lie, Satan goes to work. We like to believe that we help people by lying to them, but such is not the case. We may not see the sad consequences immediately, but ultimately they will come. “Ye know that no lie is of the truth” (1 John 2:21). Hell is prepared for “whosoever loveth and maketh a lie” (Rev. 22:15). This does not mean that anybody who ever told a lie will go to hell, but rather that those whose lives are controlled by lies—they love lies and they make lies—are lost forever. The Christian's life is controlled by truth.

Note the reason Paul gave for telling the truth: We belong to each other in Christ. He urged us to build the body in love (Eph. 4:16) and he urged us to build the body in truth. “Speaking the truth in love” (Eph. 4:15). As “members one of another” we affect each other, and we cannot build each other apart from truth. The first sin that was judged in the early church was the sin of lying (Acts 5:1–11).

Wiersbe, W. W. (1996). *The Bible exposition commentary* (Vol. 2, pp. 40–41). Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

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- Read John 8:32. What does this passage teach us about the truth?

“And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” (John 8:32, NLT)

- Again this implies that there is truth and it can be known.
- Knowing the truth “will set you free” from the ignorance of not knowing it.

Jesus and Abraham

31 Jesus said to the people who believed in him, “You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings. 32 And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” 33 “But we are descendants of Abraham,” they said. “We have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean, ‘You will be set free?’” 34 Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave of sin. 35 A slave is not a permanent member of the family, but a son is part of the family forever. 36 So if the Son sets you free, you are truly free. (John 8:31-36, NLT)

The Bible Panorama

V 31–36 SIN’S SLAVERY Jesus teaches that abiding in the truth of His word brings freedom to those who, by so doing, have become His disciples. Freedom does not come from natural descent from Abraham, because sin makes slaves of us all. Only Jesus can liberate from that basic slavery, and clearly He uses His word to achieve that.

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+8&version=NLT>  
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**2) Application:** In what way have the above passages helped you better understand the truth?

**3) Prayer:** As we begin this new series ask God to help us to be better at discerning the truth.