

Whom the Son Sets Free – John 8:28-36 (VFC, 03/10/24)

A Four Point Lesson on Truth and Deception

John 8:30–32 (ESV) “As He was saying these things, many believed in Him. ³¹ So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed Him, ‘If you abide in My word, you are truly My disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.’”

#1. You must receive the truth to believe the truth.

- You must abide in the Word (“remain faithful to” NLT; “hold to my teaching” NIV).
- You must be a disciple, not merely a convert.
- As a result, you will then know the truth.
- And the truth (that you know) will set you free.

#2. Deceived people do the things they do because they are deceived either willingly ...

John 8:43–44 (NLT) “Why can’t you understand what I am saying? It’s because you can’t even hear Me! For you are the children of your father the devil, and you love to do the evil things he does. He was a murderer from the beginning. He has always hated the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, it is consistent with his character; for he is a liar and the father of lies.”

- ... or un-willingly (2 Corinthians 4:3, 4 (NLT))

#3. Knowing about God and knowing God are two different things.

John 8:54–55 (NLT) “Jesus answered, “If I want glory for myself, it doesn’t count. But it is my Father who will glorify Me. You say, ‘He is our God,’ but you don’t even know Him. I know Him. If I said otherwise, I would be as great a liar as you! But I do know Him and obey Him.”

#4. You can’t receive all there is to know about Jesus until you’re willing to believe all there is to know about Jesus.

John 8:57–58 (ESV) “So the Jews said to him, ‘You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?’ Jesus said to them, ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.’”

Epilogue: The Truth Shall Set You Free – Three timeless truths from John 8

1. John 8:34 (NLT) “Jesus replied, ‘I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave of sin.’
 - ❖ The sin nature which results in acts of sin is the source of the bondages that enslave us.
2. John 8:51 (NLT) “I tell you the truth, anyone who obeys my teaching will never die!”
 - ❖ The remedy is to obey what Jesus said about the way of salvation.
3. John 8:58 (NLT) “Jesus answered, ‘I tell you the truth, before Abraham was even born, I Am!”
 - ❖ Accept the fact that Jesus is more than an anointed prophet, a Good Samaritan, or an authoritative teacher. He is God!

(ESV, English Standard Version; NLT, New Living Translation, NIV, New International Version)