



LIFE APPLICATION SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

Trust the Truth

A Message to Graduates & ALL Made in God's Image (Everyone)!

*Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me. **John 14:16 NLT***

Eric Smith | May 31, 2020

Sermon Summary

As Christians, we affirm that truth exists. Truth is that which conforms to reality. Jesus refers to Himself as the Truth. We, therefore, believe ultimate, objective truths exist. Even though we do not accurately perceive or understand the real world at times, the same does not apply to our Creator. The bottom line, truth is that which conforms to reality as it is perceived by God. God is omniscient; He knows all things and we can trust anything He reveals in Scripture. Truth is not defined by our own subjective standards; it is determined by the Source of truth Himself. We can trust the truth and this message is designed to help you in your quest.

Diving Into The Message

What is the truth?

HOW DO I TRUST THE TRUTH?

1. Relentlessly PURSUE It

Yet God has made everything beautiful for its own time. He has planted eternity in the human heart, but even so, people cannot see the whole scope of God's work from beginning to end.

Ecclesiastes 3:11 NLT

2. Respectfully DISCUSS It

3. Authentically LIVE It

7 But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. 8 We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; 9 persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; 10 always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies.

2 Corinthians 4:7-10

4. Peacefully REST in It

Jesus is TRUTH

6 Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me. **John 14:16 NLT**

Three TRUTHS about You!

- **You are made in God's image**

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. **Genesis 1:27 ESV**

- **You are custom-designed and one-of-a-kind**

Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! It is amazing to think about. Your workmanship is marvelous—and how well I know it.

Psalm 139:14 Living Bible

- **You are unconditionally loved**

And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love. 39 No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.

1 **Romans 8:38 & 39**

NLT

5. Joyfully Embrace it

Taste and see that the LORD is good. Oh, the joys of those who take refuge in him!

Psalm 34:8 NLT

I have told you these things so that you will be filled with my joy. Yes, your joy will overflow!

John 15:11 NLT

JESUS IS TRUTH

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John 14:16 NLT

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Life Application Questions

1. What is your understanding of truth? How has your understanding of truth impacted the way that you relate to God? To others?
2. What practices do you regularly engage to relentlessly pursue the truth? Is there a practice that has been especially helpful that you would recommend to other TRUTH SEEKERS?
3. How have you engaged in discussing the truth? What challenges or obstacles have you face in you truth discussions? Who would you like to engage in a RESPECTFUL DISCUSSION about TRUSTING THE TRUTH? How can you begin the dialogue? Remember to begin praying prior to the discussion. Ask God to open up the opportunity to initiate the conversation. Ask for Him and EXPECT Him to work through you.
4. As you think about AUTHENTICALLY LIVING THE TRUTH, have you thought of yourself as a "jar of clay" (2 Corinthians 4:7) who is fragile and imperfect yet has the treasure of Christ living in you? How can understanding that Jesus Christ by His grace saves us from sin and ourselves, forgives, and restores us help us live more authentically? Should we expect perfection from ourselves? Others? Living the TRUTH of the Gospel authentically includes being able to admit our weaknesses and need.
5. Peacefully RESTING IN THE TRUTH happens only as we accept Jesus as the TRUTH. Sincerely accepting Jesus as the truth marks the beginning of an eternal relationship with God. How does knowing that you are made in the image of God and that you are unconditionally loved by God impact the way you think about yourself? How does it impact the way you view others?

Life Group Leaders use this guide for discussion and application in your next Life Group meeting