

DISCUSSION GUIDE (July 2, 2023)

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Message: *Truth Decay; Does Truth Matter?* (series: *Wise Up*)

PRIMARY PASSAGES

Proverbs 12:19-22: *Truthful lips endure forever, but a lying tongue is but for a moment. Deceit is in the heart of those who devise evil, but those who plan peace have joy. No ill befalls the righteous, but the wicked are filled with trouble. Lying lips are an abomination to the LORD, but those who act faithfully are his delight.*

John 8:34-46: *Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not remain in the house forever; the Son remains forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. I know that you are offspring of Abraham; yet you seek to kill Me because My word finds no place in you. I speak of what I have seen with My Father, and you do what you have heard from your Father." They answered him, "Abraham is our father." Jesus said to them, "If you were Abraham's children, you would be doing the works Abraham did, but now you seek to kill Me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. This is not what Abraham did. You are doing the works your father did." They said to Him, "We were not born of sexual immorality. We have one Father - even God." Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I came from God and I am here. I came not of My own accord, but He sent me. Why do you not understand what I say? It is because you cannot bear to hear My word. You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies. But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me. Which one of you convicts Me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe Me?"*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Do you agree that we live in a post-truth world? If so, where do you personally encounter it most?
2. As a follower of Jesus, how do you think you might best speak into the lies of our culture? Where might God use you the most to do so?
3. What might it mean for you to "fasten on the belt of truth" (Ephesians 6:14)?

Father, I confess that I have too often remained silent about much of the un-truth that is being spoken in my world today. Please give me courage to take Your Word and speak it boldly, even if it means being persecuted for doing so. Make me aware of the lies being spoken. Make me to be a herald for truth. Give me courage to speak. Amen.