

THE TRUTH ABOUT TRUTH

Truth is more than honesty in speech—it reflects the character of God and the culture of His Kingdom. Scripture teaches us how to handle truth with wisdom, humility, and love.

Truth #1 Words Carry Spiritual Weight

Our words are powerful. They can bring life, encouragement, and unity—or they can cause harm and division. God calls His people to speak truthfully and responsibly.

Scriptures

Proverbs 18:21

“Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.”

Colossians 3:9

“Do not lie to one another, since you have taken off your old self with its practices.”

Proverbs 12:22

“The Lord detests lying lips, but he delights in people who are trustworthy.”

Truth #2 One-Sided Stories Create False Conclusions

The first version of a story may sound convincing, but wisdom requires hearing the full picture before forming a judgment.

Scriptures

Proverbs 18:17

“The first to present his case seems right, till another comes forward and questions him.”

John 7:51

“Does our law condemn a man without first hearing him to find out what he has been doing?”

Truth #3 Assumptions Often Replace Reality

When we lack full information, we sometimes fill the gaps with our own interpretations. Scripture calls us to listen carefully before drawing conclusions.

Scriptures

Proverbs 18:13

“To answer before listening—that is folly and shame.”

Joshua 22:10-34 (The tribes of Israel almost went to war because they assumed rebellion before seeking understanding.)

Truth #4 Bias Can Shape What We Believe

Our past experiences, emotions, and perspectives influence how we interpret situations. Spiritual maturity requires humility and careful listening.

Scriptures

James 1:19

“My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry.”

Proverbs 19:20

“Listen to advice and accept discipline, and at the end you will be counted among the wise.”

Truth #5 Gossip Survives Because People Participate

Gossip spreads when people are willing to share and listen to unverified information. God calls His people to guard their speech and protect relationships.

Scriptures

Proverbs 16:28

“A perverse person stirs up conflict, and a gossip separates close friends.”

Proverbs 20:19

“A gossip betrays a confidence; so avoid anyone who talks too much.”

Truth #6 Truth Must Be Spoken With Love

Truth and love must work together. Speaking truth without love can wound, while love without truth can mislead.

Scriptures

Ephesians 4:15

“Speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.”

Colossians 4:6

“Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt.”

Truth #7 Living Truthfully Reflects the Culture of Heaven

Truth reflects the nature of God and the character of His Kingdom. When we live truthfully, we represent heaven on earth.