

Introduction:

Text: John 8:31-36

A. To Know the truth is to... (John 8:31)

1. Believe in Jesus
2. Abide in His Word

Truth Statement: True followers of Jesus will continue to abide in His Word. (John 8:31)

B. To Know the Truth is to be set free from the bondage of sin. (John 8:32; 34-36; Titus 3:11-14)

Freedom from...

1. The consequence of Sin

Peace with God = Salvation (John 8:34-36; Titus 3:11)

- a. Through Jesus' sacrifice, death and resurrection
- b. Through Jesus we are redeemed, reconciled, and restored

2. The Effects of Sin

Peace of God = Wholeness and Inner Healing
(1 Peter 2:24; 2 Cor 5:17; Rom 8:1-4)

- a. Freedom to receive God's forgiveness and grace to forgive others
- b. Freedom from guilt and shame

3. The Hold of Sin

Grace of God = Deliverance (Titus 3:12-14)

- a. To overcome sinful, attitudes and habits
- b. To live for God and fulfill His purpose

Truth Statement: "So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed." (John 8:36)

The Big Idea: To believe in Jesus and to abide in His Word continually is to know the truth that brings freedom from the bondage of sin.

Conclusion:

1. When is this familiar saying, "The truth hurts" usually experienced in a person's life?
2. Read John 8:31-59 and answer the following questions:
 - a. Why do you think some of the Jews were offended by Jesus' statement in verses 31 to 32? What was the reasoning behind their response in verse 33? And what was so special in being a descendant of Abraham?
 - b. What do you think are the main reasons why some people in our society today are offended by Jesus' Word or truth statements found in the gospels?
 - c. What truth statement that Jesus said about Himself in verses 54 to 59, offended the Jews so much that they wanted to stone Him?
 - d. According to these verses, what kind of freedom is Jesus offering to those who believe in Him and abide in his teachings?
3. As believers in Christ, what should be our attitude and response when some of our desires, ideas, or behavior that go against Jesus' teachings are confronted when reading the Bible, or called out by a fellow Christian?
4. In your life group, suggest some practical ways in how you can help and be accountable to one another to grow in your relationship with Jesus and continually abide in His Word.

PRAY!