

Truth (A Necessary Beginning)

Truth is defined by the 1828 Webster's Dictionary as "*conformity to fact or reality; exact accordance with that which is, or has been or shall be.*" In the culture that we live in, truth is an abstract perception at best. Absolute truth is on its way out, making way for relative truth. In the life of the addict, truth is a very illusive concept and also a difficult discipline to practice. Yet truth is the foundation on which we must build our life.

When we come the end of our denial, we crash into reality, which is a very painful process. Perhaps we resisted the efforts of many well-meaning friends and relatives to get honest because we knew the truth would hurt. And that hurt was our reason for wanting to anesthetize ourselves all along. So here we stand with nowhere left to run.

Now is the time to 'fess up to what we have done. And honestly, when we gaze back into our past, it looks like a train wreck. Broken dreams, failed relationships, financial ruin, and insurmountable consequences stand as seemingly impossible obstacles to overcome. But just as we would go back and clean up the pieces after a train wreck, so we need to put our lives back together one piece at a time. In fact, until we are willing to do this, it is virtually impossible to enter into the recovery process in a life-changing manner.

Psalm 51:6 NKJV

(6) Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts, and in the hidden part you will make me to know wisdom.

Accomplishing this requires a standard, a true plumb line that we can measure ourselves by. This is something that the world apart from God is sadly lacking. The good news is that God provides that standard for us by giving us His written Word. When we arrive at the place where we are ready to honestly align our lives with God's Word, the insanity will begin to give way to order.

2 Timothy 2:25-26 NKJV

(25) in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the Truth,

(26) and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will.

1. Truth

Meditation passage for the week – Psalm 51

Truth – What does it mean?

1. **Getting Honest** with:

A. Our **self**

1. Things **are bad** and they will not **get better** if we continue doing what we are doing (Luke 15:13-17)
2. **Our way** will not work (Proverbs 16:25)
3. We **need** God's help (**2 Corinthians 1:8-9**)

B. Our **Father**;

1. Our sin is **against God** (**Psalm 51:3-4**)
2. He desires **honesty** from our **heart** (**Psalm 51:5-6**)
3. God will accept nothing less than the **truth** (**John 4:24**)

C. Our **Family** and **Friends**;

1. We have **hurt** those who love us the most (Luke 15:18,19)
 2. We must make things right with those we love in order to **worship God** (**Matthew 5:23-24**)
 3. We may need to make **restitution** to those we have taken from (**Luke 19:8**)
2. Walking in the **Light** (John 3:20-21)
 3. Accepting **God's Standard** of Truth (**Psalm 119:160**)
 4. **Knowing** the Sufficiency of Scripture (**2 Timothy 3:16-17**)

Questions for Discussion

1. Who is it that we must get honest with? (Our self, God, Others)
2. Which of these has been most difficult for you and why?
3. What does walking in the light mean to you?
4. Can we know absolute truth and, if so, where can we find it?
5. What does the term sufficiency of Scripture mean to you?