

## **“TRUTH, THE PATH TO FREEDOM”**

### JESUS IS THE TRUTH:

- Jesus states this about Himself, “I am the way, the truth, and the life” (Jn. 14:6).
  - Jesus is absolute truth revealed. When we look at Jesus, we are seeing truth in all its fullness. This means that who Jesus was, what He said and did all reflected absolute truth.
  - Jesus came to reveal the truth to us (Jn. 18:37), which is primarily a revelation of Himself and God the Father who sent Him.
- Truth – the reality lying at the basis of an appearance; the manifested, veritable essence of a matter; the transcendent, fundamental or spiritual reality. God’s truth is unchanging with time, culture or circumstance, because who He is does not change, and who He is, is truth.

### TRUTH, FREEDOM AND LIES:

- Jesus’ truth sets us free! (Jn. 8:31-32). Free from what?
  - Free from the power of sin (Jn. 8:34-36). Sin results in death.
  - Free from the devil’s lies (Jn. 8:40-47). Lies lead to deception. Deception leads to sin. Sin leads to slavery & death (Ja. 1:13-15).
  - Freedom is not living life by what I think is true (1Jn. 3:4).
  - Freedom is embracing God’s truth and experiencing the life He designed me to live.
    - We are designed to live according to God’s truth.
- Because Jesus loves us, He wants us to experience true freedom.
  - It is His love for us that motivates Him to confront us with the truth.
  - Truth exposes the lies we believe.
    - This is what the Bible calls conviction.
    - This is the, “moment of truth”, or the “decision point”, or a “crisis of belief”.
    - Will you choose God’s truth or your own “truth”?

- Whenever I choose to believe and act upon the truth, I will discover more of who Jesus is and His love for me. The more I desire to know and love Jesus, the more I must embrace and love the truth.

#### WHY WE IGNORE GOD'S TRUTH:

- It doesn't sound logical or rational.
- We feel like we know better than God.
- Failure to get immediate relief.
- Bad experiences.
- It seems too hard to do.
- Fear of losing control and being dependent upon God.
- We want to do it our own way.
- *Truth is not mainly about getting certain results; it is mainly about becoming more like Jesus. This is what we were created for!*

#### GRACE AND TRUTH:

- The message of God's grace offered through Jesus is a part of God's truth. Grace and truth are never in conflict with each other. Grace is the truth that liberates me to receive God's unconditional love and forgiveness. Grace sets me free and empowers me to obey God's truth. The more we obey God's truth, the more freedom we will experience.

#### DO YOU REALLY WANT FREEDOM?

- The truth of who Jesus is, is the beginning point of the path to freedom.
  - To know Jesus you must desire to know His truth.
  - You must desire to live like you were designed to live.
  - Then you must be faithful to apply the truth to your life (Mt. 7:24-27).