

# What to Do with Truth

Sermon by Andy Sochor

Text: John 18:37-38

Jesus told Pilate He came to “testify to the truth” (John 18:37). Pilate asked, “What is truth?” (John 18:38). This may not have been a sincere inquiry, but it is a vitally important question. God is the ultimate source of truth (Hebrews 6:18), and truth is found in His word (Psalm 119:160; John 17:17). It is critical that we understand that truth is contained in the Scriptures. Yet simply acknowledging this is not enough. There are certain things we must DO with truth.

## **Hear the Truth (Colossians 1:5)**

- The gospel tells us of the hope of heaven – so it is important that we listen to it
- We must first be willing to listen (Luke 8:8) – not close our ears to it (Acts 7:57)

## **Believe the Truth (Ephesians 1:13)**

- Hearing alone is not enough – we must believe it
- Do not be like those who “did not believe” because they “took pleasure in wickedness” (2 Thessalonians 2:12)

## **Obey the Truth (1 Peter 1:22)**

- Many people argue against the necessity of obedience – those who do not obey are lost (2 Thessalonians 1:8)
- We are freed from sin when we obey (Romans 6:17-18, 3-4) – faith without works is dead (James 2:26)

## **Practice the Truth (John 3:21)**

- After believing and obeying the gospel, we must continue to do what the Lord commanded (Matthew 28:20)
- We must not walk in darkness while still claiming fellowship with God (1 John 1:6) – “practice the truth“

## **Learn the Truth (1 Timothy 2:3-4)**

- God wants us to know the truth because this is how we learn what to do to be saved
- Yet some are “always learning” and never arrive at truth (2 Timothy 3:7) – must study the Scriptures (2 Timothy 2:15)

### **Think the Truth (Philippians 4:8)**

- We must fill our minds with truth so much that we can recall it even when not actively reading it
- Meditate on it (Psalm 119:97) – God’s word must be in our hearts if we want to keep it on our minds

### **Speak the Truth (Ephesians 4:25)**

- This is more than just being honest and telling what is true – it includes teaching the truth
- We must be ready to give an answer (1 Peter 3:15) – as we do, speak as the oracles of God (1 Peter 4:11)

### **Hold the Truth (Proverbs 23:23)**

- Once we learn and understand the truth, we must never give it up by ignoring or compromising it
- Instead, hold fast to the pattern (2 Timothy 1:13) – regardless of the consequences of our stand for truth

### **Love the Truth (Psalm 119:163)**

- The psalmist contrasted God’s “law” with “falsehood” – again, God’s word is truth (Psalm 119:160)
- He loved God’s law because it tells of God, His will for us, and the promises for faithfully serving Him

### **Conclusion**

- The truth of God has been revealed in His word – but we must do more than just acknowledge this
- We must hear the gospel, believe it, and obey it
- We must put His word into practice while continually learning and meditating on it
- We need to speak and teach the truth to others and never compromise or abandon it
- All of this needs to be motivated by our love for the truth