

Can You Handle the Truth

John 8:31-47

We have seen Jesus teaching in the temple to a big crowd, sharing many truths about who He was. He told them that He was the light of the world, that He was from above and that He was divine. Some mocked him, but John tells us “many believed in Him”. It was surprising because as Phil pointed out last week, it was as

if they were wearing upside down goggles and were understanding things opposite of what Jesus was saying. This belief, though, caused Jesus to engage deeper in conversation with the crowd and that is where we pick up the story today. What we are going to see today is that Jesus shifts the conversation from truths about Himself to truths about the people to whom he is speaking.

Part 1.	The Coming of the King
Part 2.	The Authentication of the King
Part 3.	The Controversy over the King
Part 4.	The Training of the Twelve by the King
Part 5.	The Opposition to the King:
→	Can you Handle the truth
Part 6.	The Preparation of the Disciples by the King
Part 7.	The Official Presentation of the King
Part 8.	The Preparation for the Death of the King
Part 9.	The Trial of the King
Part 10.	The Death of the King
Part 11.	The Resurrection and the Ascension of the King

The Truth Will Set You Free (John 8:31-36)

Jesus gave instructions to those who seemed to be accepting truths He was saying about himself. “Abide in my word and you will know the truth and the truth will set you free.” At a glance, this seems like a beautiful truth, and it is. Who doesn’t want to be free? But this truth did not sit well with the Jewish people because pharisaical teaching taught that if you were a Jew, an offspring of Abraham, you were free. Whether they believed it was a physical freedom from other nations or a freedom or righteousness in God’s eyes, they were not willing to admit that they were enslaved. Jesus then makes it abundantly clear that they are enslaved to their sin, and that as a slave their future in the house is uncertain. A son, however, remains in the father’s house forever and the son has the authority to set the slave free!

Who is Your Father (John 8:37-41)

The next truth that Jesus reveals to the Jews is that they are not children of Abraham. Jesus acknowledges that they are descendants of Abraham but then indicates that they have a different father than Abraham. The Jews believed that they were Abraham's children and that they do as he did. Jesus once again makes it clear why Abraham is not their father-because their works were different from His. Simply put, children reflect their father. Abraham believed God and His promises and it was counted to him as righteousness. The Jews, on the other hand, did not do as Abraham did. They wanted to murder Jesus and spread lies as their father does. Jesus makes the distinction here that there is a difference between being a physical descendent of Abraham and being a child of Abraham. One is physical and one is spiritual. A spiritual child of Abraham is one who does as Abraham did and believes God and His promises. Abraham's children are considered righteous.

Like Father Like Son (John 8:42-47)

Jesus once again makes it clear that a child's work reflects who their father is and the Jews works reveal that their father is the devil! The two reasons he gives is that: 1. satan is a murderer and these Jews want to murder Jesus and 2. that satan is the father of lies and the truth is not in him just as it is not in the Jews! Jesus' sinless life proved he was from God which means his words are from God and to reject his words means to reject God. They were believing lies and spreading lies and desiring to murder Jesus. Their works revealed who their father was.

Application:

- The first truth for us to accept is that we are enslaved to our sin and need to be saved
- By abiding or remaining in His word we are set free from the power and penalty of sin. Are we in His word regularly?

- When we come across a difficult truth in the Bible, let us not be like the Jews and reject Jesus's words, but let us consider the evidence and be willing to abandon some of our long held beliefs.
- The son reflects the Father. As Jesus reflects the Father, we are to reflect the Fathers as well.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Voice of the Martyrs -

This months items are: Twin flat sheets, toothbrushes plain (No words or logos)

Couples Movie Night! Feb. 13th @ 6:30 PM in the sanctuary -

\$10 per couple for snacks. To register email kimball@gccramona.com

Grace Family Desert Camping Trip- February 26th-28th

The Men's Ministry will host a dinner on Saturday night of that weekend. If you are interested in attending, please contact Al Lerma @ amlermatelco@yahoo.com or call/txt: 619-889-6892