

The Truth Will Set You Free

Proverbs 4:20-27

1 John 4:1 Don't always believe everything you hear, for there are many false teachers around.

What are some false teachings you have heard from the world around you?

How would you use scripture to help a young Christian understand why they are false?

Proverbs 4:20-27 Pay attention, my child, to what I say. Listen carefully. Don't lose sight of my words. Let them penetrate deep within your heart, for they bring life and radiant health to anyone who discovers their meaning. **Above all else, guard your heart, for it affects everything you do.** Avoid all perverse talk; stay far from corrupt speech. Look straight ahead, and fix your eyes on what lies before you. Mark out a straight path for your feet; then stick to the path and stay safe. Don't get sidetracked; keep your feet from following evil.

Proverbs 4:20-27 is the voice of wisdom speaking. What is the difference between having a knowledge of the truth and having wisdom?

John 8: 31-32 Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed in Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

We often settle for half-truths or no truth at all because they are usually easier. But truth is the only road to emotional health. There is no other path.

Proverbs 12:19 Truth stands the test of time; lies are soon exposed. Hebrews 13:8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. **Truth is the key to overcoming. Truth never changes. Truth is always timely; it applied yesterday, it applies today and it will apply in the future.**

Read Matthew 7:24-27. How does truth fit into this story?

John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." Using these two scriptures, what would you say is the foundation on which our lives must be built to withstand the storms of life and bring us safely to Heaven?

Read Deuteronomy 30:19-20. Proverbs 13:6 Godliness helps people all through life, while the evil are destroyed by their wickedness. According to these scriptures, our choices set into motion opportunities for l_(life)_ or d_(death)_____. Obedience to God brings security.

Dedicate yourself to s_(seeking)_____ the truth. 1 Timothy 4:1-2 Now the Holy Spirit tells us clearly that in the last times some will turn away from what we believe; they will follow lying spirits and teachings that come from demons. These teachers are hypocrites and liars. They pretend to be religious, but their consciences are dead.

How can we know which teachers are telling us the truth?

Dedicate yourself to l_(living)_____ the truth. Ephesians 4:14-16 Then we will no longer be like children, forever changing our minds about what we believe because someone has told us something different or because someone has cleverly lied to us and made the lie sound like the truth. Instead, we will hold to the truth in love, becoming more and more in every way like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church. Under his direction, the whole body is fitted together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.

What phrases in this passage describe the immature believer?

Underline the passages that tell what the maturing believer does.

Dedicate yourself to b_(believing)_____ in the truth. Hebrews 11:1-3 What is faith? It is the confident assurance that what we hope for is going to happen. It is the evidence of things we cannot yet see. God gave his approval to people in days of old because of their faith. By faith we understand that the entire universe was formed at God's command, that what we now see did not come from anything that can be seen.

1 Samuel 16:7 The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart. How would you explain what the Bible means by heart?

It is absolutely crucial that your heart be right with God. You need to learn to recognize what is in your heart—listen to your heart—so you know if something is wrong.

Matthew 6:21 Wherever your treasure is, there your heart and thoughts will also be. Why is where I put my treasure such an important indicator of the state of my heart?

Steps to letting God change my heart. Proverbs 6:16-19; Ezekiel 36:25-27; Romans 12:1-2

1. Admit you have a need.
2. Ask for help from your church family.
3. Make a choice to place your mental life under the control of the Holy Spirit.
4. Meditate on God's word and pray.
5. Allow God to change you.