



The Integrity Question

WEEK THREE

We cannot follow Jesus—much less lead ourselves—if we are lying to ourselves.

If I lie to myself, I will lie to God and others.

SERIES BIG IDEA:

When I follow God's will, I will have no regrets.

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Romans 12:2 (NIV)

SERIES BIG PRAYER:

Father, I want Your will more than I want my way. Show me Your will for today.

If I cannot be honest with myself, with whom can I be honest?

TEACHING BIG IDEA:

God's will is for me to live in truth so I will be honest with myself and follow Jesus' truth.

⁵ This is what the Lord says: "Cursed is the one who trusts in man, who draws strength from mere flesh and whose heart turns away from the Lord. ⁶ That person will be like a bush in the wastelands; they will not see prosperity when it comes. They will dwell in the parched places of the desert, in a salt land where no one lives. ⁷ "But blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him. ⁸ They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit."

⁹ The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?

¹⁰ "I the Lord search the heart and examine the mind, to reward each person according to their conduct, according to what their deeds deserve."

Jeremiah 17:5-10 (NIV)

God understands my heart will deceive me.

I will give them one heart and one way, that they may fear me forever, for their own good and the good of their children after them.

Jeremiah 32:39 (ESV)

The truth of Jesus is good news to our deceptive hearts.

Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again."

John 3:3 (NIV)

"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

John 14:6 (NIV)

Jesus came as the way, the truth, and the life, to give all who trust in Him a new heart to follow Him.

Knowing Jesus as the truth and submitting to God's will is the cure for my deceptive heart.



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²¹ "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. ²² Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?' ²³ Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'"

²⁴ "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. ²⁶ But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand.

²⁷ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."

Matthew 7:21-27 (NIV)

Am I being honest with myself, really?

- I will be honest with myself even when the truth makes me feel bad about myself.
- I will trust in Jesus' truth even if it conflicts with what I want.

MY NOTES:



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TEACHING SUMMARY:

"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." John 14:6

This is the boldest of declarations by Jesus in His time and in ours. We are bombarded with questions like "What's your truth?" and "Why don't you just follow your heart?"

The questions we need to be asking are what does the Word of Truth say about this? What does the eternal wisdom of Christ teach us? What is Jesus' truth?

How do we find this? We lean into and follow the truth of Scripture.

David, who was called a man after God's own heart, says "I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against God." We have the opportunity to lean hard into the truth of Scripture, which always leads us to the wisdom of Christ, which is Jesus' truth. It's time to dive in and live in the Truth.

TALK IT OVER:

What areas of your life is it easy to follow "your truth"?

Do you search Scripture daily to learn the wisdom of God and live in Jesus' truth? If not, what is stopping you? What barriers do you need to remove or breakthrough in order to make this part of your life?

What is one next step you can take today?

Who is someone you need to share that next step with?

DAILY BIBLE READINGS:

Day 1: Philippians 4:8-10

Day 2: Ephesians 4:17-25

Day 3: 2 Timothy 2:14-26

Day 4: James 1:17-18

Day 5: John 4:24

Day 6: Psalm 119:9-16