Finding the Truth

John 14:1-6

Longer passages are not quoted in the study sheet, but they can be read in the accompanying transcript.

Where do you find the truth about _________ life? Remember you’re investing your _______. Today we’re going to talk about the sure ________ of religious truth. God urges us, “Buy the truth, and do not _______ it, Get wisdom and instruction and understanding” (Proverbs 23:23). Your most important _________ comes in buying the truth about God and about your salvation. Where will you _______ the truth? A thousand _________ are confusing us with contradictory ideas and fanciful notions. Is there a __________? Is there a ________ and undeniable source of truth? Yes, there is!

You’ve probably heard: “No one really knows what the truth is,” or “There are no absolute truths,” or maybe you’ve heard “There is no right or wrong, only what people _______.” Do you remember the exchange between Pontius Pilate and Jesus just before His crucifixion. Pilate said to Him, “So You are a _______?” and Jesus answered, ‘You say correctly that I am a king. For this I have been ________, and for this I have ________ into the world, to testify to the truth. And everyone who is of the truth _________ My voice.’ Then Pilate said to Him, ‘What is truth?’” (John 18:37). That question has __________ in the hearts of many people: “What is truth?”

Webster defines truth as, “the true or _________ state of a matter.” Truth conforms to ________ or to fact. Truth stands against what is ________. Courts seek ________ to determine innocence or guilt. Doctors test to find out the truth about our _________. Where do we find __________ truth? We want to know _____ we are, where we come from, _____ we’re here, and ________ will happen to us when we die. Humans cannot _________ these questions on their own. We must ________ answers from above and hear from God.


People search for truth, but some of their _________ aren’t trustworthy. In fact, some of those sources are downright __________. Let’s look at some harmful sources: First, some people look to their ________ for truth. Joseph’s brothers got ________ with him; they sold him into slavery; but they _______ their father a wild beast had devoured him. Jacob __________ his ten sons and thought Joseph was dead. He mourned for years, even though Joseph wasn’t _________ dead. The feelings were ________, but they were based on a _____ . People often _______ their feelings. They want something to be true so badly they’re _________ to believe a lie. What we feel often _________ from the truth. The Jews had a ______ for God, but it was not in accordance to ______________ (Romans 10:2).

Second, some look to popular _________ or consensus for truth. They reason that if the majority believes it, it must be _______; but the majority isn’t always ________. Opinion ________ are not always trustworthy. Read the story in Acts 28:3-6. Opinions and beliefs are as ________ and as
changeable as night and day. Spiritual truth is not like popular opinions; spiritual truths don’t ________. You can _______ on spiritual truth from the Word of God that does not change. But you can’t _______ on popular opinion.

Third, some go to _______________. Authorities are a blessing, but they aren’t always _______. Compare any history book, science book, or psychology textbook from 50 years ago to today, or even 25 years ago, to the present. Even your dictionary has more than ________ words in it that were not even in existence a century ago. People go to doctors and then they go to get a _________ opinion because they want to be sure that what the doctors told them is right. We have appeals courts because sometimes a court makes a _________ decision. Authorities disagree. We hear contradictory _______________ about the foods we eat and the medicines we take. What is _____ for you in one report is _____ for you in another. We’re often left confused and wishing for __________. The fact is, even authorities are human and make ___________. Their knowledge and their judgments are imperfect and limited.

Some look inside their consciences for their moral ________. The conscience, if trained properly, can be a marvelous motivator to do what’s right and to avoid what’s wrong; but the conscience can believe a _____, and it can be _______. Paul said, “Brethren, I’ve lived my life with a perfectly _______ conscience before God up to this day” (Acts 23:1). He thought __________ Christians was the right thing to do at one point, it was already free in his conscience, but later on he found out that he was wrong! He admitted, “It’s a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am ___________ of all” (1 Timothy 1:15). He acted according to what his conscience thought was _______; but Paul’s conscience was as wrong as wrong could be.

Some people’s consciences harden to the point that they can’t _______ anything. Read 1 Timothy 4:1-2. When a branding iron affects the skin, it destroys the nerve cells too, so the person can no longer _______. You might know people who get _______ feeling any remorse, who no longer have a conscience. If we’re only looking within our consciences, within ourselves, for truth; we may not find that _____________ of truth that is indisputable.

Where, then, do we _______ the truth? It is obvious that truth isn’t in ______ (Jeremiah 10:23). Man, left to his own ingenuity, will _______ up what he wants but will _______ what he needs. Solomon said, “There is a way that _______ right to a man, but its end is the way of _______” (Proverbs 14:12). When people walk their own ways, never giving God a thought, they manufacture a false _____________ for God. When people empty themselves of God they fill their lives with false gods, and false hope, and fairy tales. Without God, people lose their _________ of justice and morality.

Truth is essential to _______. Solomon urges us, as we’ve mentioned, “Buy truth, and do not sell it, Get wisdom and instruction and understanding” (Proverbs 23:23). Truth is ___________ and it’s _______. Telling the truth cost __________ His life. The apostles died because they wouldn’t
the Lord or His truth. One must ________ to get truth. Buying the truth may mean discovering what you believed before is _________. Truth requires you to leave an _____ error and start a _____ direction; it requires you to be __________. Buying the truth will lead you to ________ your ways. Confessing the truth means that we may have to _________. One reason people ________ to believe the truth is they don’t want to change their lives even if that old life is destructive.

Once a person has the truth, he must ___________ it and never sell out for shoddy thinking or worldly ways. It’s tragic that some sell the truth to ________ some personal advantage. Read how Paul challenged Timothy in 2 Timothy 4:2-4.

We must find the truth because truth sets us ________. Jesus promised those Jews who had believed Him, “If you continue in My word, then you are truly ___________ of Mine; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free” (John 8:31-32). Whether we know the truth matters because truth sets us ________. Free from what? Free from the _____ that deceive, enslave, and destroy us. When we know the truth, we can _______ the lies. Then lies won’t have the _________ to hurt us or to lead us astray.

Many preachers today tell people what they ________ to hear rather than what they _______ to hear. I fear many are sold on false ________ found in the teachings of men. Jesus said, “Every plant which My heavenly Father did not plant shall be ____________” (Matthew 15:13). The religions of men, because they_________ with the teaching of Christ, will not stand and cannot save you. When people push their own ideas and ________ to hear Jesus, they are planting something that will be uprooted. By forgetting God, people ________ themselves and the lives of their loved ones. Foolishness will never grant us ___________ freedom. Freedom doesn’t come from falsehood or deception, but from the truth; it’s the truth found in the words of Jesus that will ________ us. That’s what makes the truth of God’s Word so ___________ to our lives. Nothing can ___________ it.

The Lord Jesus said, “I am the __________, and the __________, and the _______; and no one (no one, no one) comes to the Father but through Me” (John 14:6). Jesus personalizes what truth is all about. He’s so real, so genuine, so authentic as the Son of God, that He is the truth ___________. He is the ___________ of right and wrong. Every concept, every belief, and every religious doctrine must be ___________ against the life and the words of Jesus Christ. The Lord Jesus said, “He who rejects Me and does not receive My sayings, has one who judges him; the _______ I spoke is what will judge him at the last day” (John 12:48). We won’t be ___________ by our feelings, by opinions, by human authorities, or by our consciences. We’ll be judged by what Jesus _________. Doesn’t it make sense then that we know as much as possible about what His ________ is for our lives?

Read what the Lord Jesus said to the apostles in John 16:12-13. Jesus promised ____ truth would come to His disciples. The Holy Spirit would ________ from God and would tell them what God said. He would ________ the apostles and prophets of the first century into all the Truth. “All the truth.” That means the Spirit ___________ through the apostles in the first century every religious truth. God wanted us to ________ that truth. If it’s true, then there are no _______ truths being revealed today since the apostles revealed all truth.
Jude, in his brief letter, confirms this understanding when he says, “Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you contend earnestly for the faith which was _______ for _____ handed down to the saints” (Jude 3). The faith that Jesus wanted us to know has been revealed _______ for all time within the pages of the New Testament—the Word of truth. We don’t need to search the literature of the ______ for truth. The truth that leads to heaven is found in the ______. We need to read it, love it, meditate on it, memorize it, obey it, and share it with others, so that they too can understand the truth.

**Read what Peter said in 1 Peter 1:22-25.** The Lord purifies our souls when we _______ the Truth! That is when we ______________ Christians, children of God, washed in the blood.

Truth is one of God’s great _______. While such gifts are free, they aren’t _______. The truth can __________ your life, but only if you open your heart and ________. Truth is like a medicine, it only works when you are _________ to swallow it. It won’t do you any ________ if you merely look at it, play with it, judge it, or throw it away. It only works when you _________ it and ________ it. The truth can _______ you free from sin, free from the heartache and destruction that sin brings. Without the truth we’re all left in ____________, trying things that won’t last or won’t give us life. The truth is where it’s always been, in the Word of God! Many Christians find little satisfaction because they seek to hold onto ________ with one hand and hold onto the ________ with the other. They’re never really happy in their Christianity and never really happy in the ________. Jesus said, “No one can serve two masters; for either he will _______ the one and _______ the other, or he’ll be _________ to one and _________ the other” (Matthew 6:24). Why not give God a ________ hearing. Decide to ___________ to God, who created you and loves you, and will change your life for the best. God ought to have the ________ voice in your life. The world wants to ________ God because they would rather live on their own terms. They forget that they’ll have to _________ the consequences of their actions one day. When we shut God out, we destroy what is _______ and we throw away our ________.

We all need a good long look at the ________. Once we see the ________ of God, we’ll listen to Him. You can be _______ of Jesus Christ and His love. You can _______ your life on Him and what He teaches. You can find ________ because of His promises. The God who loves you will always keep His ________; He will never _______ to you. Put your loving ________ in the Lord. Believe the gospel _________. Jesus _______ on the cross for you; He was ________, and on the third day _______ from the dead. Trust Him with all your heart, turn from every sin in ____________, _________ to all the name of Jesus, and be _________ (immersed) in water so that your sins will be forgiven. When you’re baptized the Lord will _______ you to His church and _______ you as His child. He will _________ your life in ways you’ve never imagined. Don’t be _________ by popular religion, or feelings, or the notions of men. Look to Jesus for every _______ to the questions of your life. You’ll never regret it!