

Quarter Four: Themes in the Gospel of John

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Lesson 10—The Way, the Truth, and the Life

Wednesday: I AM the Truth

December 4, 2024

- **Last Week:** “The Source of Life”
 - John 1, 6, 10
 - Jesus possessing preexistent life & offering eternal life to all who accept Him by faith
 - Those who reject Him are condemned

- **This Week:** “The Way, the Truth, and the Life”
 - John 13 & 14
 - 4 sections of John
 - Prologue: John 1:1 – 18
 - Book of Signs: John 1:19 – 12
 - Book of Glory: John 13 – 20
 - Epilogue: John 21
 - Focused now on the Book of Glory
 - 7 “I AM” statements form a bridge across the Book of Signs & Book of Glory
 - Farewell discourse, Jesus’ foot washing, & I AM statement in Chapt 14

Memory Text: “No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.” (John 1:18, NKJV)

The week in brief:

- 1. **Sunday:** I Have Given You an Example (Daniel)
 - John 13 – farewell discourse (consoles disciples RE: His departure; promises a surrogate to represent Him; predicts grief to come; He exhorts the disciples to remain faithful
 - Jesus washing the disciple’s feet & example of servanthood
- 2. **Monday:** I Will Certainly Come Again (Ryan)
 - John 14:1 – 3 – hope in the promise of Jesus’ second coming
- 3. **Tuesday:** I Am the Way, the Truth, and the Life (SQ)
 - John 14:5 – 11 – connection between Jesus & the Father; Jesus as the Way, Truth & Life
- 4. **Wednesday:** I Am the Truth (Jill)
 - John 1:14, 17; 8:32; 14:6; 15:26 – connection of truth to Jesus; Truth is a Person
- 5. **Thursday:** The Scriptures and the Truth (James)
 - John 5 – the truth in the Word of God; how to examine our worldview through the lens of Scripture

Wednesday: I Am the Truth

John 1:14, 17; 8:32; 14:6; 15:26; 3:19 – 21; 8:44 – 47; Col 1:16, 17; John 8:12

- 7 “I AM” statements in John (bridge from book of signs to book of glory)
 - All statements connected with eternal life
 - Jesus connected with eternal life
 - Jesus connected with truth

- **I AM Statements of Jesus**
 - **1. The Bread of life** (John 6)
 - Vs 33 - The “bread of God is He who comes down from heaven & gives life to the world”
 - Vs 40 – “And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day.”

 - **2. The Light of the world** (John 8 & 9)
 - Vs 51 – “Most assuredly, I say to you, if anyone keeps My word, he shall never see death.”

 - **3. The Door** (John 10)
 - Vs 10 – I have come that they may have life, and have it more abundantly

 - **4. The Good Shepherd** (John 10)
 - Vs 28 – I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand

 - **5. The Resurrection & the Life** (John 11)
 - Vs 25 – He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live

 - **6. The Way, the Truth, and the Life** (John 14)
 - The life indicates eternal life
 - Vs 1 – 3 (Ryan’s day) – going to heaven, spending eternity with Jesus

 - **7. The True Vine** (John 15)
 - Vs 6 – if anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned.”
 - If don’t abide, won’t live forever, will be burned

- I AM the Truth
 - The Truth = Jesus (Pastor James – Truth = Scripture)

- **7 Statements of Truth**
 - **1. The Truth is Jesus**
 - 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.’”
 - Jesus = the Truth

 - John 1:14 – “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”
 - John 1:1 – “In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God.”

- Jesus is the Word
 - Struggle with Truth – Jesus is Truth
 - The Sabbath – Jesus is Lord of the Sabbath
 - Diet – Jesus wants to live inside (we are His temple)
 - Death as a sleep – Jesus is the resurrection & the life
 - Sin – Jesus cleanses us & sets us free
 - Lesson: “It is by Jesus, the Truth, that we are able to interpret the world around us rightly.”
- **2. The Truth illuminates the darkness**
 - John 8:12 – “Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, ‘I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.’”
 - Jesus is the Light that illuminates the darkness
 - He shows us our sin & points us to Himself
 - Always convicts, never condemns
- **3. The Truth sanctifies us**
 - John 17:17 – “Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.”
 - The Word sanctifies us – Jesus sanctifies us
 - Eph 5:26 – “that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word”
 - God cleanses us through His Word – that Word is Jesus
 - Heb 4:12 – “For the Word of God is living & powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”
- **4. The Truth sets us free**
 - John 8:32 – “And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”
 - Jesus is the one who sets us free
 - Freedom from bondage & addiction
 - He transforms us
 - Freedom from guilt & shame
 - He forgives, cleanses & restores
 - Freedom from sadness & depression
 - He gives us joy
 - Freedom from worry & fear
 - He gives us peace
 - Freedom from resentment & bitterness
 - He gives us forgiveness
- **5. The Truth can be hard to accept**
 - John 8:45, 46 – “But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me. (46) Which of you convicts Me of sin? And if I tell the truth, why do you not believe Me?”
 - We accept what we know – conditioned to accept
 - Tradition, culture, upbringing

- Interpretation of the Word of God
- Scribes & Pharisees
 - Studied the Word of God
 - Could not accept Jesus as Messiah
- *Religious bigotry blinds us to accept the Truth in Jesus
- **6. The Truth needs to be spiritually discerned**
 - John 8:47 – “He who is of God hears God’s words; therefore you do not hear, because you are not of God.”
 - The religious leaders response – Vs 48 – Jesus is “a Samaritan and has a demon”
 - Not ready to spiritually understand Jesus as the Messiah
 - Need an open heart to understand truth
 - John 8:44 – “You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it
 - John 15:26 – “But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me.”
 - Ask for the infilling & help from the Holy Spirit
- **7. The Truth is connected with grace**
 - John 1:17 – “For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.”
 - Both are resident within Christ – grace **and** truth
 - *think, only need truth – beat people over the head
 - The Truth = the Jesus
 - The Truth is connected with grace

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