

True-Ish Part 1: What Is Truth?

*(John 18:37-38 NIV) "You are a king, then!" said Pilate. Jesus answered, "You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to **testify to the truth**. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me." "What is truth?" Pilate asked.*

What you believe determines how you behave.

The Father of Lies

*(John 8:44 NIV) "(The devil) was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and **the father of lies**."*

*(Romans 1:18, 22, 25 NIV) "The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who **suppress the truth** by their wickedness... Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools... **They exchanged the truth of God for a lie**."*

Relativism - The assumption that there is no such thing as absolute truth.

Subjectivism - I, the subject, have the right to determine what is right and wrong without submitting my judgment to any authority outside myself.

True-Ish

✓ "As long as you're sincere."

Just because you're sincere doesn't make what you believe true.

*(Isaiah 64:6 NIV) "All of us have become like one who is **unclean**, and all our righteous acts are like **filthy rags**."*

✓ "As long as you're happy."

God doesn't want you happy when it causes you to do something wrong or unwise.

(1 John 2:15-17 NIV) "Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For everything in the world-the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does-comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever."

✓ "As long as you don't hurt anyone."

Without God you are a bad person.

(1 John 1:8 NIV) "If we claim to be **without sin**, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us."

(1 John 1:9 NIV) "**If we confess our sins**, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

What Is Truth?

(John 14:6 NIV) "Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

(Matthew 16:15-16 NIV) "**Who do you say I am?**" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

1. Truth is not just a what but a who.

(John 1:1-2, 14 NIV) "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning...The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."

2. Jesus—The Truth—Can bless you.

(Psalm 112:1 NIV) "**Blessed** is the man who fears the LORD, who finds great delight in his commands."

3. Jesus—The Truth—Can set you free.

(John 8:32 NIV) "Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

(John 8:36 NIV) "So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."