



# ▶ DAILY DEVOTIONAL.

**Saturday/Sunday, 3/23-24/19**

**“The Lie and the Truth”**

**John 1:1-14**

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.*

*There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.*

*The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.*

*And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

**Family Activity:** Many times I have played a popular icebreaker game called “Two Truths and a Lie.” The premise is simple. Everyone would get a turn to share two things that are true about themselves and one that isn’t. As the group tries to figure out which one is the lie, they also learn more about each other. When it comes to our relationship with God, the closer we grow in our relationship to God, the easier it is to identify God’s truth. When we know God more, we can also become better at calling out things that aren’t God’s truth. As a family play “Two Truths and a Lie,” but with a twist. Instead of saying things about yourself, see if you can come up with two of God’s truths and a lie.

Discuss:      How does it feel to be able to identify God’s truth?  
                    What can we do if we are struggling to find God’s truth?  
                    How can we continue to hear God’s truth in our lives?

**Monday, 3/25/19**

**“In the Waiting”**

**Psalm 25:1-5**

*To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.*

*O my God, in you I trust;*

*let me not be put to shame;*

*let not my enemies exult over me.*

*Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame;*

*they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.*

*Make me to know your ways, O Lord;*

*teach me your paths.*

*Lead me in your truth and teach me,*

*for you are the God of my salvation;*

*for you I wait all the day long.*

- There are some days or weeks where we feel like we are spending a lot of time waiting. Waiting for the weekend, waiting for a table at a restaurant, waiting for a reply to an email. I don't often think about waiting for God. When was a time that you were waiting for God? What is God asking you to wait on today? What truth do you believe God is trying to teach you in your waiting?
- My husband is great at navigating. If he has been somewhere once, he can find it again without needing directions, so before I head somewhere, I will ask my husband about which route to take. One day I thought I had the perfect path, but I found myself caught behind traffic due to an accident. I needed guidance and so I picked up my phone to call to see what other path I could take. Sometimes we need to reassess the path we are on. This scripture reminds us that we can continue to look to God for guidance and direction in our lives. Where are you needing God's guidance and direction? What path would you like God to teach you?

**Prayer:** Holy God, we thank you for your truth in our lives. God, give us silent moments of waiting so that we may have the space to hear your voice. Make clear the path you have for us, so that we might draw closer to you. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

**Tuesday, 3/26/19**

**“The Truth Will Set You Free”**

**John 8:31-33**

*So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” They answered him, “We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, ‘You will become free?’”*

- Those who heard Jesus were quite obviously confused with the idea of needing to be set free. They assumed that because they were not slaves, they were not in need of liberation. There are, however, many things that can keep us from truly living the lives God has designed for us. What has or is keeping you from being set free?
- How has God's word set you free? Who do you know that can benefit from this freedom?

**Prayer:** Holy God, we thank you for your truth in our lives. We ask you today to set us free from the things that are holding us back from you. Help us to be free to serve you and give us the words to share that freedom and truth with those around us. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

**Wednesday, 3/27/19**

**“To Flee or to Pursue”**

**2 Timothy 2:22-26**

*So flee youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart. Have nothing to do with foolish, ignorant controversies; you know that they breed quarrels. And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, correcting his opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will.*

- In reading this passage, what are you challenged to flee from? What would you be challenged to pursue? What other words or phrases stand out to you and why?
- What “foolish, ignorant controversies” is God calling you to put aside in order to show kindness, patience and gentleness?

**Prayer:** Holy God, we thank you for your truth in our lives. We thank you for the ways that you are challenging us to grow in our faith and grow closer to you. Fill us with your Holy Spirit so that we may overflow with kindness, goodness, patience, gentleness and mercy. In the name of Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit we pray, Amen.

**Thursday, 3/28/19**

**“The Way, the Truth and the Life”**

**John 14:1-7**

*“Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.*

- A few years ago I was traveling to a wedding about 14 hours away. It was late at night and I was in a very rural area when my GPS and cell phone stopped working and I panicked a bit before I remembered my trusty Rand McNally map. In reading this scripture, I get the sense of a bit of panic when Thomas realizes he doesn't actually know the way he is supposed to go. Jesus' answer is one we know well, that he is the way and the truth and the life. How does this scripture influence your faith? How does this scripture encourage you to continue to draw closer to God?
- Following Jesus is a daily journey, and one filled with trust and faith. How have you struggled to trust Jesus as the way, the truth and the life? How can you celebrate trusting God?

**Prayer:** Holy God, we thank you for your truth in our lives. Help us in this moment to set aside the fear that is holding us back from truly following you. Give us the determination to go where you lead us and the peace to know that wherever we go, you are there with us. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

**Friday, 3/29/19**

**“Obedience”**

**1 Peter 1:22-25**

*Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; for*

*“All flesh is like grass  
and all its glory like the flower of grass.  
The grass withers,  
and the flower falls,  
but the word of the Lord remains forever.”*

*And this word is the good news that was preached to you.*

- My 11-month-old puppy and I regularly work on obedience training. When we are home alone, he does a great job of following directions. When others are around or we are outside of the house, it is a whole other story. He gets excited and wants to go make new friends, and he sometimes doesn't listen. Obedience takes regular practice, not just with adorable puppies but also with our own faith life. It can be easy for us to be obedient to God when we are alone and without distractions. What distracts you from being obedient to God?
- What are you holding on to today that will wither like the grass? What are you holding on to today that is imperishable? How can you be obedient to that truth?

**Prayer:** Holy God, we thank you for your truth in our lives. Give us the courage, strength and endurance to be obedient to you and to your word despite the many distractions that this day holds. Fill us with your Holy Spirit and with your Good News so that we may abide in you. In the name of Jesus Christ, through the power of the Holy Spirit we pray, Amen.

***This week's devotional was written by  
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