

WORSHIP

SUGGESTED WORSHIP SONGS:

For All You've Done, Joy, One Way, We Believe, How Deep is Your Love

WELCOME

One Truth. Ask each member in the group to share one truth about themselves which only a few people know.

WORD

JOHN 8:31-32

³¹ So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, "If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."

Truth is important. Right thinking leads to right emotions, and right emotions produces right behavior. What you think to be true has an impact upon your relationships, your life, and your future.

For Jesus, a true believer is a disciple committed to the Word of God. Because only those who truly believe in Him will continue in His word and knows that it is the truth that makes one free.

KNOW THE TRUTH

In the Bible, the word "truth" means completely reliable and trustworthy. Truth bears the following characteristics:

- Truth is **factual**.
- Truth must correspond to **reality**.
- Truth is **not invented**; you discover it.
- Truth is **not by majority** decision.
- Truth is **timeless; universal**.
- Truth can be **painful**.
- Truth is **narrow** and **exclusive**.

Some people today believe there is no absolute truth. They can tolerate what others choose to believe regardless of whether it is true or not.

"There are two ways to be fooled. One is to believe what isn't true; the other is to refuse to believe what is true." – Soren Kierkegaard

Jesus wants us to follow Him and to know the truth because there is a real enemy - Satan, the father of lies. Satan will attack our thinking to make us doubt and deny God's Word. He can make us believe that God is selfish and a killjoy (**Genesis 3:1, 4-5**).

The battle is in the mind. So if we do not know the truth, we can easily believe lies.

God is the only truth; He wants us to know truth. He does not lie (**Titus 1:2**). Whatever He says and promises, He fulfills. When we encounter Jesus and submit to the Word of God, we will know the truth, be protected from lies and have great peace (**Psalms 119:151, 160, 165**).

BE SET FREE

To know the truth is to abide in God's Word – to obey and build our lives anchored on it. When we abide in God's Word, we will experience the truth, and the truth will set us free.

The worst kind of slavery is when we do not know or we deny it. The Jews were so blinded that they believed that they were never enslaved (**John 8:33**). Jesus then pointed them to the heart of the issue that whoever commits sin is a slave of sin (**John 8:34**).

Counterfeit freedom is thinking we can do whatever we feel like doing, without having rules, boundaries or consequences. This mindset is in fact a form of slavery. When we become so attached to things of this world such as drugs, alcohol, pornography, sex, computer games, relationships, etc., and we actually become addicted to it, that is slavery.

True freedom is the desire and ability to do God's will, and to be all that God has designed you to be. It is the desire and ability to do good and say no to sin.

God wants us to be free. True freedom means that we are to be all that God has designed us to be and to reach our full potential. How then can we have true freedom?

WORD (cont'd)

JESUS IS THE ANSWER

Between truth and freedom is Jesus. He is the truth that sets us free. Before we came to know Him, we were enslaved to sin, but through Him, we are freed (**John 8:36**).

Jesus breaks the chain of bondage. The bondage is no longer there, but if we continue to believe the lies in our mind, they can control us. Then we will neither have joy nor peace.

Jesus is not just a Savior, a teacher or a prophet. He is God (**John 8:57-58**).

When Jesus claimed, "I Am the Way, the Truth and the Life, no one comes to the Father except through Me" (**John 14:6**), His claim must be true or false.

If this is true, then you must believe Him. Who Jesus claims to be is what brings true freedom.

But to experience true freedom, we must surrender our independence to Jesus and be fully dependent on Him. True believers are true disciples. They abide in His Word, they know the truth and it sets them free.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

(Leaders: Please choose questions that are appropriate to the level of spiritual maturity of your members)

- 1. True Disciples.** Who are true disciple of Jesus according to **John 8:31-32**?
- 2. True Freedom.** When you come to know Jesus as your Lord and Savior, what have you been set free from?
- 3. True Life.** How do you live out the word of God in your life? How do you continue abiding in His Word?

WORKS

TRUE DELIVERANCE

Are there any remaining bondages in your life today? If there are, list them down and seek God's help to remind you that you have been set free by Jesus. Opposite your list of bondages, list down God's Word that you will intentionally meditate and live out to help set you free from slavery of lies and sin.

Share this with your accountability partner for prayer and encouragement.

WEEKLY PRAYER POINTS

I. Thanksgiving

- Worship God for who He is, what He has done, and what He will do in our lives

II. Country and the World

- Upright and moral governance of Public Servants and a God-centered Philippines
- Repentance and Salvation

III. Church

- That CCF Members would honor and love God and make disciples
- Elders, Pastors, Leaders, and Families
- Ministries and Churches worldwide

IV. CCF Facilities

- Worship and Training Center
- Prayer Mountain

V. Personal Concerns

- Deeper intimate relationship with God
- Righteous living
- Salvation of family and friends