



THE TRUTH: KNOW, BELIEVE, SHARE, DEFEND

Series Introduction

“No fact of contemporary Western life is more evident than its growing distrust of final truth and its implacable [relentless] questioning of any sure word ... Two powerful forces are today pursuing and competing for the beleaguered human spirit. On the one hand, the God of Judeo-Christian revelation, whose truth and Word nullified pagan deities in the ancient past, still holds modern secular man wholly answerable to the theistic exposition of human life. The living God of the Bible inescapably and invincibly shows up and speaks out ... On the other hand, the secularizing speech of audio-visual technology more and more sets the tone for human thought and conduct.” (Carl F.H. Henry, *God, Revelation, and Authority, Volume I*, “The Crisis of Truth and Word,” 1976)

The Truth

- Know: _____ (Matthew 22:37, John 3:10)
- Believe: _____ (John 1:12, Romans 10:10)
- Share: _____ (Acts 1:8, 8:1-4)
- Defend: _____ (1 Timothy 3:15, 1 Peter 3:15)

The Old Testament Foundation

- We think of the Old Testament as a story that focuses on _____.
However, the Old Testament consistently speaks about God's heart for all _____ (Genesis 12:3, Exodus 12:38, 19:6, Psalm 67, Ezekiel 38:23, Jonah 4:11, Habakkuk 2:14).

The New Testament Commission

The New Testament explicitly sends believers out into the _____ with a message to share. No Christian is _____ from this call to take the truth to those who are lost (Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 16:15, Luke 24:44-49, John 21:21, Acts 1:8 ... Romans 1:16-17, 10:13-17, 2 Corinthians 5:16-21, 1 Timothy 2:1-4, Revelation 5:9, 7:9).

Two Realities

- God has not given every Christian the gift of _____ (Ephesians 4:11-16).
- Every Christian should be prepared to make a _____ (1 Peter 3:13-17).

The Problems with "Canned" Gospel Presentations

- You are teaching for the _____. You are not teaching to really _____.
- People can sense the _____ of a canned gospel presentation.
- The focus often becomes _____ arguments and being right.

Spiritual Warfare

- When you share the gospel with a non-Christian, you are entering an _____, _____ conflict between good and evil (Genesis 3:1-7, Revelation 12:9, 20:2 ... Job 1-2, Zechariah 3:1-10, Acts 19:11-20, 26:12-18, 2 Corinthians 4:1-6, Ephesians 2:1-3, 6:1-10, 1 Timothy 4:1-3).
 - Rest assured, Satan will not simply _____ you to attack his kingdom.
 - Rest assured, he who is in you is _____ than he who is in the world.

The Truth

- Ultimately, the truth is more than a collection of _____ – the truth is a _____ (John 14:6, 18:37-38).