

CALVARY CHAPEL OF PHILADELPHIA

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

4 YEAR OLDS

TEACHER'S PACKET

SUNDAY MORNING

Study 20

T is for Truth



T is for Truth

The Objective is the key concept for this week's lesson. It should be the main focus of the study.

These are the key verses that you will find helpful in teaching your study this week. The "Main passage" is the basis of the study, where the other verses support the objective of the lesson.

There is a memory verse for the students that relates to every study. If a student can memorize the verse for the following week you may give them a prize from the "reward box" found on your cart.

An introductory activity or question that will settle the class, draw their attention to the study and prepare their hearts for God's Word.

Objective To demonstrate to the children that God is never deceitful, He does not lie, and He always tells us the truth.

Key Verses

Titus 1:2; Hebrews 6:18—Main Teaching Passages

Psalms 25:5

John 14:6

John 8:32

Genesis 6-9

Memory Verse - Psalm 33:4 (May Memory Verse)

"For the word of the LORD is right, and all His work is done in truth."

Hook

Ask the class to name things God can do. Remind them of the stories of Scripture, such as when God split the Red Sea, raised Lazarus from the dead, or created everything in six days.

Then ask the class if there is anything God can't do. Tell them that today, the Scripture will tell us one thing God can't do: lie.

What does the Bible say? This is where we will read a passage or series of passages that teach on the subject of the day.

BOOK

Titus 1 tells us something incredibly important about the nature of God. It says that God cannot lie. It is important to note that it does not say that God “does not” lie, or that He “chooses not” to lie. It says that God does not have the capacity to lie. Hebrews 6:18 is even more succinct, “It is impossible for God to lie.” He simply cannot speak that which is not true. This is so important to understand as a believer because it undergirds all of our ability to trust Him and His Word.

Because God cannot lie, we can declare like Jesus in John 17:17, “Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.” The Scriptures themselves are bound together by the very idea that God’s Word is true, and that because there is not falsehood in Him, we can not only trust what it says, but have full confidence in obeying His Word as well. Psalm 25:5 says, “Lead in me in Your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation.” Of course, the ultimate example of truth is found in the person of Jesus Christ, who described Himself as “the way, the *truth*, and the life” (John 14:6). We are, of course, also instructed in John 8:32 that if we know the truth, then the truth shall set us free. If we replace the word “truth” in that verse with “Christ,” it doesn’t change the meaning one bit.

The interpretation/exegesis of the passage. What does this passage mean? How does this passage apply to my life?

LOOK

Throughout the year, we have been talking about all the things that God is, and all the things that God does. We said that God is almighty, that He can overcome even the biggest problem. We said that God is forgiving, even able to forgive the worst sins you could think of. The next two weeks, we will be looking at two things that *can’t* do. It’s strange to think that there are some things that God can’t do. After all, He is God. He can do everything, right? Wrong. This week we are looking at an awesome thing that the Bible says that God can’t do. God cannot lie. God only has the ability to speak truth, and that is so very important for us.

God’s Word is filled with something called prophecy. Prophecy is God telling us what is going to happen in the future. Take, for example, the story of Noah (Genesis 6-9). God told Noah that He was going to flood the earth with heavy rain, even though it had never, ever rained before. Noah had to wait almost 100 years for it to happen, but eventually it came, just as God had promised. Every promise about the future that God has made has come true, because cannot lie. There are some promises that God wrote just for us, and just like the promises He gave His people in the Old Testament, we can believe every single one of them.

LOOK (Continued)

Because God can't lie and always tells the truth, we can believe everything that He tells us in the Bible. We can trust that God created the universe and everything in it. We can trust that He spoke to His people in the Old Testament and told them how to live for Him. Most importantly, we can trust that Jesus Christ came to the earth in the form of a man, lived a sinless life, and died on a cross so that our sins can be forgiven, and that He is coming back again to take His people to live with Him forever in a place where there is no sin or sadness. Lastly, because God cannot lie, whenever His Word tells us to do something in obedience to Him, we can be safe in following it. His Word will not lead us astray because God only gives us truth.

What is my response to this passage of Scripture? How should my life change according to what this passage teaches me? What are the practical things I can do throughout the week to make this true in my life?

TOOK

Review the lesson by asking if we can trust the Bible. Are there any lies in the Bible? How do we know there are no lies in the Bible?

Pray: Thank the Lord that His Word is truth and that it can be trusted and obeyed. Praise Him for giving us a hope and a future to look forward to. Ask for the strength to trust and believe in His word no matter what the world around us may say.

Parent Question: Has God ever told a lie? Does He always tell the truth?

FURTHER STUDY

Commentary on Hebrews 6:13-18 and Titus 1:2 by David Guzik

3. (13-18) Don't be discouraged because God's promises are reliable.

For when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, saying, "Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you." And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise. For men indeed swear by the greater, and an oath for confirmation is for them an end of all dispute. Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed *it* by an oath, that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before *us*.

a. **After he had patiently endured:** A season of patient endurance is a time of spiritual attack. It seems that we may never obtain **the promise** of God in our life. It is easy to wonder, "Will God *really* come through in my situation?"

b. **After he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise:** God came through for Abraham, even sealing His **promise** with an oath. In fact, **because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself**. This oath showed that God's promises (like His character) are unchanging. Abraham's trust in this was the gateway to the fulfillment of the promise.

i. "This passage teaches us . . . that an oath may be lawfully used by Christians; and this ought to be particularly observed, on account of fanatical men who are disposed to abrogate the practices of solemn swearing which God has prescribed in his Law." (Calvin)

c. **That by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation:** The **two immutable** (unchanging) **things** are God's *promise* and God's *oath*. It is **impossible for God to lie** in either of these two things.

i. The *absolute reliability* of God's promise should impress us. "Now, brethren, who among us dare doubt this? Where is the hardy sinner who dares come forward and say, 'I impugn the oath of God'? Oh! But let us blush the deepest scarlet, and scarlet is but white compared with the blush which ought to mantle the cheek of every child of God to think that even God's own children should, in effect, accuse their heavenly Father of perjury. Oh, shame upon us!" (Spurgeon)

d. **Strong consolation:** God isn't content to give us mere **consolation**. He wants to give us **strong consolation**. Spurgeon described some characteristics of strong consolation:

- **Strong consolation** does not depend upon bodily health.
- **Strong consolation** does not depend upon the excitement of public services and Christian fellowship.
- **Strong consolation** can't be shaken by human reasoning.
- **Strong consolation** is stronger than our guilty conscience.

i. "It is a strong consolation that can deal with outward trials when a man has poverty staring him in the face, and hears his little children crying for bread; when bankruptcy is likely to come upon him through unavoidable losses; when the poor man has just lost his wife, and his dear children have been put into the same grave; when one after another all earthly props and comforts have given way, it needs a strong consolation then;

not in your pictured trials, but your real trials, not in your imaginary whimsied afflictions, but in the real afflictions, and the blustering storms of life. To rejoice then, and say, 'Though these things be not with me as I would have them, yet hath he made with me an everlasting covenant ordered in all things and sure;' this is strong consolation." (Spurgeon)

Titus 1:2

2. (2) Paul was an apostle in the **hope of eternal life**.

In hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began,

a. **Eternal life**: This is the life of the Eternal God living within us. It is present now, but will be completed later.

i. "The Christian gospel does not in the first place offer men an intellectual creed or a moral code; it offers them life, the very life of God." (Barclay)

b. **Which God, who cannot lie, promised**: This eternal life is not a *wish*, but a **hope**. In this sense, **hope** is an anticipation founded not on wishful thinking, but on a promise from the **God who cannot lie**.