

Truth Matters…

So Love with the Truth! Part 1

Lesson 3 • 2 John 1-3

Big Idea	The Message of 2 John: Truth Matters in a World of Lies! LONG for the TRUTH and MAKE the TRUTH a PRIORITY in ALL of LIFE!			
Lesson	**LOVE** by the Truth! **1-3**	**LIVE** in the Truth! **4-6**	**LOOK** for the Truth! **7-11**	**LEARN** the Truth! **12-13**
Focus	**PROVISION** of the Truth	**PURPOSE** of the Truth	**PROTECTION** of the Truth	**PURSUIT** of the Truth

➤ What ***kind*** of truth are we talking about?

Gospel Truth: God's kind of truth that is **REVEALED** from above in the gospel of Jesus Christ.

1) Truth that is revealed in the ***incarnate*** **SON** of God–*the Lord Jesus Christ.*
2) Truth that is revealed by the ***indwelling*** **SPIRIT** of God–*the Holy Spirit.*
3) Truth that is revealed in the ***inerrant*** **SCRIPTURES** from God—Christ and His Prophets and Apostles.

God Says HIS TRUTH Is…	The World Says SUCH TRUTH Is…
Divine Revelation	Human Reason
Incarnate Person	Abstract Principle/ Philosophy
Essential	Optional
Eternal	Temporary
Absolute	Relative
Objective	Subjective
Universal	Cultural / Local
Relational	Impersonal
Practical	Impractical
Transformational	Judgmental
Liberating	Enslaving
Propositional: *Spoken & Written*	Experiential: *Emotional & Mystical*
Logical / Rational	Illogical / Irrational
Wisdom	Foolishness

INCARNATE TRUTH
The Son of God
John 14:6; 1:14, 17

INDWELLING TRUTH
The Spirit of God
John 14:16-17;15:26; 16:13-14; 1John 5:6

Revealed TRUTH from God

INSPIRED and INERRANT TRUTH
The Scriptures from God
John 17:17; 16:13-14; 1John 4:5-6; John 8:40, 45-46

➤ What ***kind*** of love are we talking about?

Gospel Love: God's kind of love that is **REVEALED** from above in the gospel of Jesus Christ.

1) A **SUPERNATURAL** love that must be revealed by God and experienced through Him, because He Himself is love.
2) A **SACRIFICIAL** love that God revealed and demonstrated by giving His Son to die on the cross for the sins of the world.
3) A **SCRIPTURAL** love that is revealed in God's truth and does not contradict the teaching of His truth.
4) A **SAVING** love that forgives sinners and brings about their new birth as children of God.
5) A **SANCTIFYING** love that obeys God's holy standards for living.

A SUPERNATURAL Love
John 17:25-26;
1John 4:8, 16, 19

A SACRIFICIAL Love
John 3:16;
1John 3:16; 4:9-10

LOVE Revealed from God in TRUTH

A SANCTIFYING Love
John 14:15, 21, 23; 15:10;
1John 3:10; 5:1-6; 2John 6

A SAVING Love
1John 3:1, 14-15;
4:7-8, 12, 15-16

A SCRIPTURAL Love
1John 2:4; 3:18-19;
2John 1-5; 3John 1-5

Gospel Truth Provides All We Need to Show Gospel Love to One Another

1. Gospel Truth Provides **BOUNDARIES** for Our Love.

"whom I love in truth" 2John 1

- ➤ We are to love **IN TRUTH**–*within the boundaries/sphere/limits of the truth!*

- ➤ When love takes us **OUTSIDE** the sphere of gospel truth, it is ***less than love*** in God's eyes.

We Are Not Loving in Truth…

1) When we **SET ASIDE** truth in order to love.
2) When we **TWIST** the truth in order to love.
3) When we take truth **LIGHTLY** in order to love.

2. Gospel Truth Provides **MOTIVATION** for Loving All Believers in Truth.

"whom I love in truth and not only I, but also all those who have known the truth" " 2John 1b

- ➤ When truth fails to **MOVE** us to love one another, it falls short in God's eyes. *1 Timothy 1:5*

We Are Not Being Moved by the Truth…

1) When we ***set aside love*** in sharing the truth. *1Corinthians 13:1-2*
2) When we ***twist love*** in sharing the truth. *Ephesians 4:15-16*
3) When we ***take love lightly*** in sharing the truth. *Revelation 2:1-5*

- ➤ When truth fails to move us to love one another as **MEMBERS** in our local church, it falls short in God's eyes.

3. Gospel Truth Provides **DEGREES** in Loving Others.

"to the elect lady and her children whom I love" " 2John 1

- ➤ God is love but He still has degrees of love, when loving people.

- ➤ Just like God, we as believers are to have degrees of love when loving people.

4. Gospel Truth Provides **NO EXCUSES** for Not Loving One Another.

"for the sake of the truth which abides in us and will be with us forever:" " 2John 2

- ➤ We have no excuse, because Gospel Truth **ABIDES** in us through the incarnation of Jesus and will never **ABANDON** us due to His indwelling Spirit.

  1) Gospel truth **ABIDES** in us through the incarnation of Jesus.
  2) Gospel truth will never **ABANDONS** us through the indwelling presence of the Spirit.

- ➤ We have no excuse, because the personal, powerful, abiding presence of Gospel Truth in our lives **EMPOWERS** us to share Gospel Love with one another and those far from God.

5. Gospel Truth Provides the **RESOURCES** for Loving One Another.

"Grace, mercy, and peace will be with you from God the Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in truth and love." 2John 3

John Promises That the Resources for Loving One Another Will Always Be With Those Who Truly Know the Truth of the Gospel

- **AMAZING GRACE** for us to share with others in truth and love.
- **UNDESERVED MERCY** for us to share with others in truth and love.
- **TRUE PEACE** for us to share with others in truth and love.

Both the Father and the Son Are the SOURCE of These Gospel Resources and They Provide Them in the SPHERE of Truth and Love!

- Our Triune God **NEVER SETS ASIDE THE TRUTH** to love us!
- Our Triune God **NEVER LACKS LOVE** in revealing His truth to us!

God the Father has made provision for abundant grace, undeserved mercy, and true peace through His Son, Jesus Christ, but **NEVER AT THE EXPENSE** of **GOSPEL TRUTH** and **NEVER WITHOUT GOSPEL LOVE!**