

Hebron STUDENTS

Hello Parents!

This month, Hebron Students will be starting a new series titled, “Truth Be Told” which is aimed at helping students hone their apologetics (their ability to explain our faith or argue God’s biblical truth confidently). Our culture has become blurry as to what is truth. Teenagers are barraged with ideas of “truth” that don’t match up with God’s Word. This series intends to differentiate what culture says is true and what God says is true. We will look at four statements that are commonly thought of as true (even among believers) and hold them up to Scripture.

Here is the plan for the next four weeks:

JANUARY 31, 2024

This week we will be studying Jeremiah 17:5–10 & Mark 7:21–23 and focusing on the truth that we must learn to follow God above our own hearts. “Follow your heart” is a widespread saying that students have likely heard tossed around by their peers. While it is a very popular piece of advice, scripture tells us that our hearts are broken and sinful. Instead of following our hearts, we should be following God.

Questions to ask in the car or around the table

- How have you seen the brokenness of your own heart?
- Where in your life do you need to follow God instead of your heart?
- What can help you follow God instead of your heart?

FEBRUARY 7, 2024

This week we will be studying John 10:9, 14:6; Acts 4:12; 1 Timothy 2:5 and focusing on the truth that the only way to have a relationship with God is through Jesus. Our culture likes to tell us there are many paths to God. However, the Bible paints a very different picture. It tells us there is one way to God, and it’s not a way of our choosing but the way God has laid out for us to either accept or reject.

Questions to ask in the car or around the table

- What wrong paths have you attempted to take to get to God?
- Have you embraced Jesus as the only way to God?
- Who in your life is on the wrong path to God and needs to hear about Jesus being the only way?

FEBRUARY 14, 2024

This week, we will be studying Psalm 145:20, John 3:16–18, Romans 2:12–16, and 1 John 2:2 and focusing on the truth that freedom from God's eternal judgment can only be found through Jesus. Our culture might say that a good God wouldn't judge, but in fact, a good God must judge. All of us have sinned and must stand under his judgment. This is why Christ had to suffer, and it's why his saving grace is so profound.

Questions to ask in the car or around the table

- In what ways have you broken God's law?
- Are you still under the judgment of God, or have you turned to Jesus and placed your faith in him?
- What are some ways you can remind yourself that God is good?

FEBRUARY 21, 2024

This week, we will be studying Proverbs 30:5–6, John 16:1–4, 17:14–19, and Romans 3:3–4 and focusing on the truth that God's Word can be trusted as the source of absolute truth. One of the popular lies in our culture is that truth is relative. The lie goes something like this: "What is true for you may not be true for me; each person determines their truth." This is why our culture seems to have no right or wrong. Contradictory, the Bible teaches that its content is God's revealed Word, and it's all true. More importantly, it's not just true—it's the absolute truth for all people.

Questions to ask in the car or around the table

- What are things in culture that people argue as right or wrong?
- Are you allowing God's truth to guide your life? How so?
- Why is it so hard to hold to God's truth when it goes against culture?

Parenting Principle of the Month:

Let Life Teach The Lesson

I don't yet have kids. However, I did, it would be really important to me to want my kids to find success, avoiding the mistakes I have made growing up. If you're like me, you may find yourself instinctively quick to jump in and help or protect your kids so that they won't fail or be embarrassed. The level at which we do this may vary from person-to-person and from child-to-child. Whatever level you find yourself, I think that it becomes apparent that if we care more about the outcome of a mistake more than our children do—enough to step in and solve the problem ourselves—then no one benefits. To do so means we're taking on responsibility that is not ours, and robbing our kids of the opportunity to develop, grow, and mature.

Certainly, there are times we are compelled to step in and protect and offer a safety net. But often, we need to step back and allow life to be the teacher. It's the best way our children learn basic truths—like all decisions have consequences. It's a powerful reality that, if learned early, will benefit them immeasurably for the rest of their life.

Reflection Questions:

1. When and how often do you find yourself repeating and reminding your kids because you don't want to be embarrassed or inconvenienced?
2. Do you tend to step in and finish a task your kids have started? If so, why?

Action Steps:

1. Identify some situations when you've been jumping in to "help" but will now let life be the teacher.
2. Let your children know the changes that you'll be making and why it's important for them to learn from their mistakes and choices.