

Movement Into Truth

“When I was in middle school I was convinced that the word opaque was actually spelled and pronounced opague. I was so convinced of this fact that I would convince others that opaque sounded ridiculous and was not in the dictionary. When others would confront me with the truth that it was opaque and not opague, I would vehemently defend my belief. It took me years to not only believe that I was wrong but to say and spell the word opaque correctly.”

- Have you ever believed anything that you discovered later was not true?

“When Jesus was on earth he talked a lot about what was true. Over and over and over again Jesus said, ‘I tell you the truth...’ or ‘you have heard it said...but I tell you.’ In fact in John 18:37b that he says that he ‘came into the world to testify to the truth.’ (NLT) This aspect of Jesus mission is incredibly important because truth is so hard to find in our conversations, in advertizing and even in our relationships.”

- Do you agree that truth is hard to find in our world today?
- How do you determine what is true and what isn’t?

With Jesus emphasis on the truth it is interesting that there is so much confusion about the Gospel. Many people don’t really have a clear what his main message while he was on earth was.

- If someone asked you what the Gospel is what would you say?

Read Matthew 4:17

“This concept of the Kingdom of Heaven was the main theme of the message of Jesus. It certainly includes Jesus living and dying for us but it is more than praying a prayer for eternal salvation. It’s about a whole new way of life.”

- How do you understand the Kingdom that Jesus spoke so much about?
- How do you try and live in the Kingdom of Heaven instead of the Kingdom of Man?

“Jesus Gospel, his Good News, the truth he declared, focused on the Kingdom of Heaven being at hand but it included a call for repentance. Jesus was very clear that there was something standing in our way from joining this new reality. Our sin.”

Watch the Video Clip from Alias

- Do you agree with this perception of the human condition?

Read Matthew 5:29-30 and Matthew 18:6

- What do you think Jesus meant by these words? Why did he use such graphic language to describe sin?

Linkin Park’s song What I’ve Done honestly talks about the sin problem we all have and our need for forgiveness.

Listen to Linkin Park’s ‘What I’ve Done’

- What do you think of the lyrics of this song? Does it accurately depict your experience?
- How do you ask for forgiveness for the things you’ve done?

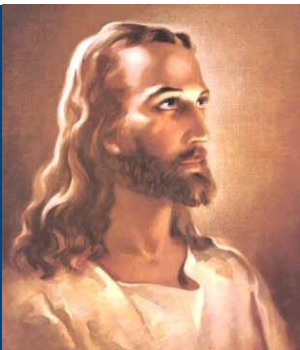
True or False?

Left:

Jesus had blond hair, blue eyes and white skin.

Right:

Where the disciples old men when they followed Jesus as the DaVinci painting ‘The Last Supper’ depicts or were they teenagers?



“Forgiveness and grace is available to everyone. We can choose to pattern our lives after his today; we can repent of our sin as he calls us to, accept the grace he offers and walk into the Kingdom of Heaven. We can start to live in the movement of God right now. When we choose to follow Jesus our sin problem doesn’t magically disappear but when we sin we know what to do about it. We know that God promises to forgive us our sin when we ask him to.”

- How does God’s grace impact your struggle with sin?

“Jesus came to communicate the truth about reality – and communicating this truth was critical to accomplishing his mission in the world. I am convinced if we are to join God’s movement in the world we need to know and live and communicate the truth.”

- What are some practical ways we can know, live and communicate truth?
- How do you need to change your life to join the movement of God

Notes:

What are some practical ways we can know, live and communicate truth?

How do you need to change your life to join the movement of God?



