



Text: John 14: 1-7

PROMISE

In Christ you will never be _____,
never have to _____ it, and you will refuse
to become a spiritual _____.

1) Never be _____.

2) Never have to _____ it.

3) Refuse to become a spiritual _____.

One Year Bible Reading

July 12: 1 Chronicles 12:19-14:17, Romans 1:1-17, Psalm 9:13-20, Proverbs 19:4-5

July 13: 1 Chronicles 15:1-16:36, Romans 1:18-32, Psalm 10:1-15, Proverbs 19:6-7

July 14: 1 Chronicles 16:37-18:17, Romans 2:1-24, Psalm 10:16-18, Prov. 19:8-9

July 15: 1 Chronicles 19:1-21:30, Romans 2:25-3:8, Psalm 11:1-7, Prov. 19:10-12

July 16: 1 Chronicles 22:1-23:32, Romans 3:9-31, Psalm 12:1-8, Proverbs 19:13-14

July 17: 1 Chronicles 24:1-26:11, Romans 4:1-12, Psalm 13:1-6, Proverbs 19:15-16

July 18: 1 Chronicles 26:12-27:34, Romans 4:13-5:5, Psalm 14:1-7, Proverbs 19:17

July 11 & 12, 2015

PROMISES

Life Group Lesson • Week of July 12

It's no fun to get lost. It's particularly difficult when we're late for an appointment, or perhaps have rambunctious children with us in the car. Everyday we're taking our family somewhere. Whether we realize it or not, we are leading our children down a path—is it the right path? Where will they end up? Merely *hoping* we are headed in the right direction is not enough. You and I must *know* the way if we want to end up in the right place. Jesus said, "I am the way."

Have you ever been lied to? When someone you love and trust lies to you, the sting of betrayal can be debilitating emotionally. It's hard to steady yourself when the ground beneath you keeps shifting. Sadly, we live in a world in which many people live by the notion: you have your truth, I have mine—they have their truth, we have ours. While in fact, truth is not evolving. It is not being "made up" as we go along.

Like a rock truth is immovable, unchanging, secure for all time. Truth is eternal—without beginning and end—and is embodied in a person, the Lord Jesus Christ. We find our footing when we come to Jesus because He will never lie to us. In fact, as He was preparing to leave this world He told His disciples: "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me" (John 14:6).

Read John 14:1-7

1. Several years ago there was a song on the radio called "Tell Me Lies, Tell Me Sweet Little Lies." Why would anyone want to hear lies?

Has there been a time in your life (whether you were on the telling end, or the receiving end) when lies were more convenient than the truth?

What can make the truth difficult to hear?

Like stepping on the bathroom scales after a season of overeating, many of us avoid stepping into God's Word because we don't want to see the truth. And yet, like stepping on the scales, seeing the truth (however ugly at first) brings us back to reality. We get to a point where we're willing to change and take a new direction.

Although it is sometimes hard to face, Jesus said the truth sets you and me free (see John 8:32). Fudging, lying, deceiving others only compounds what is already broken. Truth, however difficult to face, is always liberating in the end.

2. What do the following Scriptures say regarding this issue of truth vs. lies? Why is it crucial to accept God's eternal truth and live according to His Word?

Psalms 25:3-5

Isaiah 45:22-23

Romans 1:18-20

Galatians 5:7-8

The spirit of antichrist is already at work in this world and opposes everything about Christ—who He is, His love and light, and His work of salvation. Antichrist (which means "instead of Christ") confuses people regarding the way to God. This false spirit deludes the mind and counterfeits the truth God ever-reveals through His Son. The spirit of antichrist wants to steal, kill, and destroy—in other words, bring death. All this is in direct opposition to Christ Jesus who said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life!"

One day "the man of lawlessness will be revealed, but the Lord Jesus will kill him with the breath of His mouth and destroy him by the splendor of His coming. This man will come to do the work of Satan with counterfeit power and signs and miracles. He will use every kind of evil deception to fool those on their way to destruction, because they refuse to love and accept the truth that would save them" (2 Thessalonians 2:8-10).

3. Are you in a state of confusion? Ask the Lord to reveal any lies you have been believing (or supporting) through your choices and lifestyle. Name them in the space below.

Is your heart troubled? Ask the Lord to free you with truth—however difficult to face initially—and steady you in His unchanging love. In the space below, write down what the Lord reveals to your heart.

Like disease, lies and deception grow in darkness, and can go on for years, unexposed, until the sickness has spread and irreparable damage has been done. The Lord doesn't want us to live this way. He exposes the darkness with His light. Jesus came to this dying world so that we could know the Father—so that we could be saved. You can know undeniably that your life is held safe in God's unchanging love. Jesus will never lie to you. He is the way, the truth, and the life.

4. Close in a time of worship. Reflect on these words of praise to the LORD and thank Him for saving you.

"I will exalt you, my God and King, and praise your name forever and ever. I will praise you every day; yes, I will praise you forever. Great is the LORD! He is most worthy of praise! No one can measure His greatness... The LORD always keeps His promises; He is gracious in all He does. The LORD helps the fallen and lifts those bent beneath their loads... The LORD is close to all who call on Him, yes, to all who call on Him in truth" (Psalm 145:1-3,13b, 14,18).