



DISCIPLESHIP ESSENTIALS SERIES

SUNDAY 4TH JUNE 2023

Topic: Discipleship Essential "Spirit Brings Truth"

John 16: 5-15

Speaker: Ps. Sam Toms

We have Spiritual Blind spots.

Spiritual blind spots prevent us from experiencing the Truth the HS wants us to experience.

Some of them are:

- We can weaponise 'truth' and not enter in on it
- Truth revealed, not deducted.
- We forget to pause.
- Held captive by past experiences

Cultivate an appetite for the HS to play prominence in our lives.



The disciples didn't want to acknowledge the reality that Jesus was going to leave them. What reactions would you think the disciples would have had knowledge that the person that had been following closely for three years was about to depart for good?

In the passage, Jesus affirms and encourages his disciples that they would not be left alone. In fact, he encouraged them that it would be a wonderful thing that he could go so that the Spirit of God would be able to be in them.

Read this passage again in John 16: 5-15. What was the role one of the roles that the Spirit of God would play in the life of the believer?

How does the role of the Spirit of God in us lead us to the truth? What does this look like?

What stands out in this verse is that we see some truths that would be great for us to consider.

Truth is an experience to enter in on.

1. - Jesus said that he is the 'way, truth and life'. He is the truth that we don't just understand from an intellectual capacity but actually experience through our relationship and intimacy with God.
- What is an example of a truth that you can know about, and how is that truth different to experiencing personally?
- My example is creation. I can know that God created by looking at the evidence of God's handiwork. But I can also experience the creation by enjoying creation and also by experiencing the new work God is doing in me.
- What ways have believers been guilty of 'weaponising' truths?





2) Truth is revealed, not deducted.

- We can deduct a lot of information about God through developing our theology and from reading, but this is not enough alone. What we need is to experience the Holy Spirits' formative role in our lives as he seeks to reveal to us our actual reality.

- The enemy seeks to blind us from the reality of our condition. In doing so, we don't realise our need for our saviour. We don't appreciate the role of worship and devotion in our life.

- What needs to change in your daily life to give attention to what the Spirit of God wants to reveal in your life?

3) The power of the Pause.

- What moments of Pause have you built into your life to actually listen to God speaking to you? Would you consider the Lectio Divina – as an additional way of reading the Bible with attention given to what God is speaking to you about? There are lots of variations in doing it. The emphasis is on reflection and contemplation.

4) Moving on from Nostalgia.

We can be held captive by expectations of how God moved previously. We can try and relive these moments and miss what God is calling us into now.

Read Psalm 40:3. What comforts do we need to let go of to be able to experience the 'new' song that God wants us to step into and sing?

The Role of the Holy Spirit is crucial for us entering into God's truth and for us seeing our actual reality. We need to lean in and listen intently, attentively and with purpose to the soft still voice of the Spirit of God.