

Truth

Jesus is the Truth

Foundation

Bible passage : John 14.6 & 8.32

In Unit 2 we saw that the Pharisees said that Jesus was true. But, clearly they did not believe what they were saying, otherwise they would have believed in Him rather than trying to trap Him. But Jesus was not just saying what was true, He called Himself “The Truth”: “I am the way, the truth and the life” (John 14.6). These words were spoken by Jesus to the disciples at the Last Supper. He had been talking to them about going away, clearly referring to His imminent death, although they were still confused by why He was talking about dying. He then went on to talk about coming back to take them to the place He had prepared for them, referring to both His resurrection and their places in heaven. It is when they ask Him the way to where He is going that He speaks the words quoted above.

Earlier in John’s gospel we find Jesus saying about His teaching “And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” (John 8.32).

An important issue in theology is how we can know about God. We can look at the universe He has created, including ourselves. But, we know that things are not what they should be because of the consequences of sin, therefore what we learn from the world is not a reliable guide to what the Creator is like. We can listen to what others tell us about God but how do we know that they are telling the truth? In the Bible God is recorded as speaking (well over 1,000 times) and telling us about Himself.

“I am the Way, the Truth and the Life”



Christians believe that the whole of the Bible is given by God the Holy Spirit in order that we can learn about God. But more than anything else it is Jesus who helps us to understand about God. Therefore, Christians don’t just want to know about Jesus, they want to know Jesus Himself, personally.

In John chapter 14 Jesus went on to say to the disciples “Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.” (v9 - see also John 12.45) This is an amazing thing to say but is true because Jesus is the Son of God. Whilst human children can look very different to, and be very different in character to, their parents, the Bible also tells us that Jesus “is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation” (Colossians 1.15). Therefore, John wrote at the start of His gospel “No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father’s side, he has made him known.” (John 1.18).

There is a great depth to what it means to say that Jesus is the Truth, but it certainly means that He is true in Himself, true in what He taught and true in what He shows us about God.



Jesus told the truth in His teaching and shows us the truth about God.