

Truth Matters... So Love with the Truth! Part 2

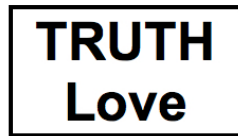
Lesson 4 • 2 John 1-3

Gospel Truth Provides All We Need to Show Gospel Love to One Another

1. Gospel Truth Provides BOUNDARIES for Our Love.

"whom I love in truth" 2John 1

- We are to love IN TRUTH—within the boundaries/sphere/limits of the truth!



This is God's kind of love.

- When love takes us OUTSIDE the sphere of gospel truth, it is *less than love* in God's eyes.

We Are Not Loving in Truth...

- 1) When we SET ASIDE truth in order to love.

LOVE

This is not God's kind of love.



- 2) When we TWIST the truth in order to love.



This is not God's kind of love.

- 3) When we take truth LIGHTLY in order to love.



This is not God's kind of love.

2. Gospel Truth Provides MOTIVATION for Loving All Believers in Truth.

"whom I love in truth and not only I, but also all those who have known the truth" 2John 1

- When truth fails to MOVE us to love one another, it falls short in God's eyes. 1 Timothy 1:5

We Are Not Being Moved by the Truth...

- 1) When we set aside love in sharing the truth. 1Corinthians 13:1-3
- 2) When we twist love in sharing the truth. Ephesians 4:15-16
- 3) When we take love lightly in sharing the truth. Revelation 2:1-5

- When truth fails to move us to love one another as MEMBERS in our local church, it falls short in God's eyes.

3. Gospel Truth Provides DEGREES in Loving Others.

"to the elect lady and her children whom I love" " 2John 1

- God is love but He still has degrees of love, when loving people.
 - 1) God as **CREATOR** loves His creation. *Psalms 145:9; Matthew 6:26; Isaiah 11:6-9*
 - 2) God as **REDEEMER** loves the whole world and offers His Son as a sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. *John 1:29; 3:16; 1John 2:2; 1Timothy 2:3-6*
 - 3) God as **FATHER** loves His chosen (elect), born from above, and adopted children with a greater love that is only found in His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ! *John 13:1, 34-35; 15:9-10, 12-13; 16:26-27; Romans 8:31-39*
- Just like God, we as believers are to have **degrees of love**, when loving people.
 - 1) Like **God our Creator**, we are to love all people made in His image.
 - 2) Like **Jesus our Redeemer**, we are to be a "Good Samaritan" to all who come across our path in need of compassion and care and concern!
 - 3) Like **God our heavenly Father** and **Jesus our King**, we are to have a greater love and greater care and greater concern for one another as brothers and sisters in God's elect family! *Galatians 6:9-10; John 13:34-35; 1John 3:17-18; 1 Timothy 5:8*

4. Gospel Truth Provides NO EXCUSES for Not Loving One Another.

"for the sake of the truth which abides in us and will be with us forever:" " 2John 2

- We have no excuse, because Gospel Truth **ABIDES** in us through the incarnation of Jesus and will never **ABANDON** us due to His indwelling Spirit.
 - 1) Gospel truth **ABIDES** in us through the incarnation of Jesus.
 - 2) Gospel truth will never **ABANDONS** us through the indwelling presence of the Spirit.
- We have no excuse, because the personal, powerful, abiding presence of Gospel Truth in our lives **EMPOWERS** us to share Gospel Love with one another and those far from God.

5. Gospel Truth Provides the RESOURCES for Loving One Another.

"Grace, mercy, and peace will be with you from God the Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in truth and love." 2John 3

John Promises That the Resources for Loving One Another Will Always Be With Those Who Truly Know the Truth of the Gospel

- **AMAZING GRACE** for us to share with others in truth and love.
- **UNDESERVED MERCY** for us to share with others in truth and love.
- **TRUE PEACE** for us to share with others in truth and love.

Both the Father and the Son Are the SOURCE of These Gospel Resources and They Provide Them in the SPHERE of Truth and Love!

- Our Triune God **NEVER SETS ASIDE THE TRUTH** to love us!
- Our Triune God **NEVER LACKS LOVE** in revealing His truth to us!

God the Father has made provision for abundant grace, undeserved mercy, and true peace through His Son, Jesus Christ, but **NEVER AT THE EXPENSE of GOSPEL TRUTH and NEVER WITHOUT GOSPEL LOVE!**