

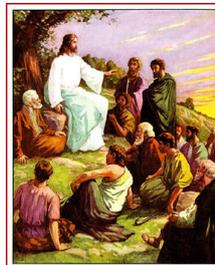


Today's Lesson

A Call To Live The Truth

Power Point notes available at:
www.unityofbakersfield.org

A Call To Live The Truth



The author of the book of John has Jesus speaking of truth three times:

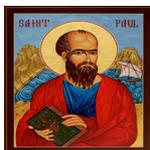
And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. John 8:32

Jesus said to him, *"I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through me.* John 14:6

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Jesus answered. *"For this reason I was born and have come into the world, to testify to the truth."* John 18:38



Paul would later describe that truth as, *"the Christ in you, your hope of glory."* Colossians 1:27

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Charles Fillmore wrote and taught that:

The Christ abides in each person as their potential perfection;
 The Christ is the incarnating principle which is the perfect idea in God-Mind for humankind;
 The Christ is the spiritual nucleus and light that guides every human to the truth of their divinity.



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Truth students the world over have been called to live the truth of their being.

In his book Reflections of The Christ Mind, Paul Ferrini writes:

A teaching lives only to the extent that people understand it and live it. It is like a musical composition. It doesn't come alive until someone performs it. When you understand the spiritual teachings and practice them in your daily life, you answer the call to live your truth.

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One of Jesus's major teachings was that we would can could do the things he had done. So why haven't we done that?

The main reason for not understanding and living the truth of our Christ potential is found in the belief that we are not divine spiritual sons and daughters of the our beloved parent, God. That Jesus and only Jesus was divine. A major misconception created by Paul along with the understanding that Jesus was going to return.

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According to Fillmore, the second coming of the Christ happens all the time within the individual the second a spiritual awakening to the truth of their divine essence is realized and demonstrated in their life and affairs.

In his book Discover the Power Within You, the late Eric Butterworth explains:

Eschatology, the doctrine of the second coming and judgment day, is based on dogma created centuries after the death of Jesus by the early Christian Church.

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It is based on the letters of Paul and his mission to prepare the people of his day for Jesus' return. To this very day, we still here the message of "get ready for the second coming." For thousands of years, the message has been very much the same, so why hasn't it happened? It's because Paul never knew Jesus on a personal basis. He never had a chance to really hear and understand Jesus's reply to the Pharisees, Priests, and disciples when they asked, when is the kingdom coming.

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The kingdom of God does not come with observation, nor will you here others saying, look it's over there, no, it's over here. Instead look within yourself for it's coming, for the kingdom of God is within you. (Luke 17:20)

History teaches us what Jesus knew in his heart. Civilizations and nations were never destroyed by outer conquest or by God's wrath. They have risen or fallen by the rise and fall of human consciousness.

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If humankind is in trouble today, it's because of the ego centered mindfulness of outer directed consciousness. The danger is not in the atom, that is energy that has always been, but in the human condition that frustrates our inherent potential of expressing a call to live the truth of our Christ mind. The kingdom of God is within each and every one of us. If you wish to experience the second coming then it's got to be an inside job.

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Each of us has the power to change how we look at life, to answer the call to live the truth of our divine self, to realize our potential in spite of what the world of appearances tell us.

Unity Minister, Mary Omwake, tells this story of a young boy that she called Buddha on a Bike:

At the age of three, I was sure Justin had a Buddha consciousness. He was very gentle and content with life as he knew and understood it.

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Then one day it changed on a trip to the toy store. I bought him a bright red two-wheeled bike, and with that Justin was transformed into a famous motorcycle racer overnight. The bike was only ten inches off the ground, so Justin was known as the "lower rider." He put on his helmet and ran outside. First he rode around in little circles, then next he would stand back about five feet from the bike, run and jump on the seat—falling off every time.

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He continued with this activity of running, jumping and falling off without whining or complaining. Watching all this from my window, I thought, "my word, he needs airbags all around him." Finally, after a few days, Justin ran, jumped and stayed on the seat. He was delighted with himself. But, he still had more to achieve. "Help me start like they do at the races, Grandma," Justin shouted over his shoulder as he started making engine sounds.

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"One. Two. Three," I counted. He gave me a thumbs-up sign and took off as fast as he could. I realized I was not watching a three-year-old on a ten-inch bike, I was watching a world-class motorcycle racer. Just as the acorn knows it is a mighty oak, this child knows he is a racer. He sees what he wants to become, not what he is.

In Jonathan Livingston Seagull, Jonathan was learning to fly from place to place in a spilt second.

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Johnathan's teacher gave him great wisdom saying, "To fly as fast as thought to anywhere that is you must begin by knowing that you have already arrived." Justin was too young to have read the book, but something inside of him—in all of us—knows of true potential. We each have it in us to be the best of whatever we wish to be, wish to achieve.

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It is up to each of us to answer our call to live the truth of who we truly are. And taking a page from Jesus's teaching manual here are four activities that can help:

1) A call to live the truth starts with the activity of love. Unconditional love that loves for the sake of loving. It is from this energy that all of us were created as children of God. Jesus displayed this kind of love by demonstrating a selfless love that did not require anything in return.

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It is a love that gives of itself, the kind of love that the Buddha called compassion.

2) A call to live the truth of our being requires us to have and use wisdom. As we learn to discern the world around us from a spiritual perspective we gain knowledge and understanding that aligns itself with the Christ of our being. The more we are able to do this we gain greater wisdom to do greater things.

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3) A call to live the truth involves the student of truth to engage in self-reflection. Taking time to enter into prayer and meditation, to sit with any question that is keeping you from realizing the truth of your being. Reflecting on the choices and decisions that have been made that brought you to your current place on your spiritual journey. While practicing self-reflection remember to bring love and wisdom into the process, thus bringing a sense of awareness of your divine self.

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4) A call to live the truth involves the basic understanding that if it is to have any meaning in our lives it must be practiced by using the love, wisdom and reflection in such a way that you are able to:

Offer kindness to all living beings.

Let go of grudges and the need to take revenge on anyone or anything.

Offer forgiveness to those who ask for it and ask for forgiveness to those against whom you've transgressed.

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Do what you love now; don't wait for a perfect moment to follow your dreams.

Appreciate the people and situations already in your life; they won't be there forever.

Practice letting go of people and situations that want to leave your life.

Stay engaged with life to find what feels true to do or not do in any given moment.

Enjoy the mysteriousness of life.