

WELCOME TO
THE ROAD.TV LIVE
CHURCH
WHERE YOU ARE

7.26.20

THE TRUTH QUESTION

I John 3:24 - 4:6

Ask group members: What is "truth"?

Ask a group member to read the text. I John 3:24 - 4:6

Testing to recognize what is true.

The Spirit Test

Ask group members: Can you think of examples from the Scriptures in which the truth was mixed with lies in order to deceive?

Ask group members: Can you think of current or recent examples in our world in which the truth was/is mixed with lies in order to deceive?

Ask group members: What are some areas of our lives in which we are most susceptible to deception?

Brother Rick mentioned: "Miracles, money and morality. Something incredible happens—it must be God. Our desire for prosperity is so strong that if we are promised prosperity we will swallow anything. Don't even raise your hand if you have been part of some multi-level marketing scheme or Ponzi scheme—you feel foolish looking back—the promise of prosperity gets us. Morality—look at the life they live—it must be God."

Ask group members: Can something be spiritual and yet not of God?

Brother Rick: "Go all the way back to Exodus 7—Moses is standing before Pharaoh—Aaron's rod becomes a serpent, the sorcerers and wise men did the same. Water turns to blood in the Nile River—7:22 the magicians of Egypt did the same. Just because something is spiritual doesn't mean it is from God."

2 Corinthians 11:14 tells us that Satan will disguise himself as an angel of light to deceive us.

Ask group members: What does the Bible tell us about the work of the Holy Spirit?

The Holy Spirit lives in us - I Corinthians 3:16.

The Holy Spirit changes us from the inside out - Ezekiel 36:27 "I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes."

The Holy Spirit intercedes for us. - Rom 8:26.

The Holy Spirit produces fruit in us. - Gal. 5.

The Holy Spirit teaches us. - Ezekiel 36:27

Ask group members: Have we diminished the greatness of this gift in our lives? Taken Him for granted? The first criteria of truth - the Holy Spirit of God is living in you.

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THE JESUS TEST—I JOHN 4:2-3

I John 4:2 says, "By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God..."

Ask group members: What beliefs about Jesus are essential?

Brother Rick: "Here is what you and your influencers need to believe about Jesus. Jesus was the son of God. Not a son of God, but the one of a kind unique Son of God. That Jesus was God's son manifested in the flesh—v.2. That Jesus was at one time fully God and man. John 1:14 'And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the Only Begotten From the Father, full of grace and truth.'"

"Jesus lived a sinless life I John 3:5. That Jesus came to restore the relationship between God and man by becoming the substitute for the penalty of my sin—I John 3:5."

Ask group members: What does John tell us in I John 4:3 about "every spirit that does not confess Jesus."?

It is not from God. They are of anti-Christ. I John 2:22 "Whoever denies Jesus is the Christ—this is the antichrist."

Ask group members: What do those who influence you believe about Jesus?

The books you read, the podcasts you listen to, the videos you watch —Are they of the spirit of Christ or anti-Christ?

THE WORD TEST—I JOHN 4:6

Ask group members: How do we respond to the Word of God. Is this God's word, or just good advice?

Ask group members: What about when God's Word addresses your area of struggle, do you view it as God's Word or just good advice? When you are living together is it God's Word or just good advice? When cheating on your taxes will help you out financially is it God's Word or just good advice? When it comes to how you handle your money is it God's Word or just good advice?

Ask group members: To reject the teachings of God's Word is to reject _____? Answer: God.

Three questions to ask to make sure you are living in the truth.

Ask group members: Is the Bible my authority?

Is there a precept that speaks to this issue?

A clear yes and no about this issue?

Is there a principle about this issue?

An overarching truth I need to apply.

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Ask group members: Is the Holy Spirit leading me?

If the Spirit of God lives in you, you can trust the Spirit of God to lead you?

Ask group members: What do you know about the Spirit's leading? Will the Spirit of God will ever lead us to live in conflict with what the Word of God teaches?

Ask group members: Why is it sometimes hard to know how the Spirit is leading us? Our sinfulness will often make it difficult for us to understand what the Spirit is saying.

What do other followers of Jesus say?

God's Word will not lead you away. God's Spirit may be hard to hear, but it will not lead you away. Listen carefully to what other followers say. God uses people to teach us, expose us to new truth. So stay open.