

Mount Pisgah Baptist Church
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Thursday Evening IMPACT Bible Study

“Standing on the Truth” (January 5, 2023)

So, this will be our final lesson on “**The Five Levels of Truth**”

- Level # 1-** You must “**know**” the truth.
- Level # 2-** You must “**understand**” the truth.
- Level # 3-** You must then “**believe**” the truth.
- Level # 4-** You must “**apply**” the truth.
- Level # 5-** You must finally “**stand**” on the truth.

We have made it to **Level # 5**. The truth that you *know, understand, believe, and apply*, will be *challenged* and *questioned*. At that crucial point, you have a “decision” to make.

Many times, we believe, or say, that we have a “problem”. You may not have a *problem*; you may only need to make a “decision”. And if you will go ahead and make a *decision*, the so-called “problem”, will be minimized or disappear.

I. You Must Stand When the Truth is “Challenged”

1). Acts 5:29- Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to **obey God** rather than **men**.

We must be willing to *disagree* with man’s opinion, and *agree* with God’s.

a). Proverbs 14:12- There is a way which **seemeth right** unto a man, but the **end** thereof are the ways of **death**.

To “**stand**” on the truth, will mean that you will be in the *minority*.

b). Matthew 7:13-14- ¹³ Enter ye in at the **strait** gate: for **wide** is the gate, and **broad** is the way, that leadeth to **destruction**, and **many** there be which go in thereat: ¹⁴ Because **strait** is the gate, and **narrow** is the way, which leadeth unto **life**, and **few** there be that find it.

You have a choice: You can believe God and the Bible, or, you can believe man and society.

c). Psalm 119:105- Thy word is a **lamp** unto my feet, and a **light** unto my path.

2). Daniel 3:5-6; 12-18- ⁵ That at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, ye **fall down and worship the golden image** that Nebuchadnezzar the king hath set up: ⁶ And whoso falleth not down and worshippeth shall the same hour be **cast** into the midst of a **burning fiery furnace**.

¹² There are certain Jews whom thou hast set over the affairs of the province of Babylon, **Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego**; these men, O king, have **not** regarded thee: they serve **not** thy gods, **nor worship the golden image** which thou hast set up.

¹³ Then Nebuchadnezzar in his **rage** and fury commanded to bring Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Then they brought these men before the king.

¹⁴ Nebuchadnezzar spake and said unto them, **Is it true**, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, do **not** ye serve my gods, **nor** worship the golden image which I have set up?

¹⁵ Now **if ye be ready** that at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, ye fall down and worship the image which I have made; well: but if ye worship **not**, ye shall be cast the same hour into the midst of a **burning fiery furnace**; and who is that God that shall deliver you out of my hands?

¹⁶ Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, answered and said to the king, O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter. ¹⁷ If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king.

¹⁸ But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that **we will not** serve thy gods, **nor** worship the golden image which thou hast set up.

You must accept, embrace, and become more and more comfortable with the fact that you are in the minority.

FIVE STAR FACT: Men will not understand you.

a). **I Corinthians 2:14-16-** ¹⁴ But the **natural** man receiveth **not** the **things** of the **Spirit** of **God**: for they are **foolishness** unto him: *neither* can he **know** them, because they are **spiritually** discerned.

¹⁵ But he that is **spiritual judgeth** all things, yet he himself is judged of **no** man. ¹⁶ For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? but **we** have the mind of Christ.

Embrace the fact that you and God think alike; and that you and a natural man do not.

When you make the decision to stand on the truth, you will *gain* some enemies, and *lose* some friends.

1). Galatians 1:10 (ESV)- For am I now seeking the **approval** of **man**, or of **God**? Or am I trying to **please man**? If I were still trying to **please man**, I would not be a **servant**^a of **Christ**.

II. You Must Stand When the Truth is “Questioned”

1). Genesis 3:1-6- Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, **hath God said**, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

² And the woman said unto the serpent, **We may** eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: ³ But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, **lest ye die**.

⁴ And the serpent said unto the woman, **Ye shall not surely die**: ⁵ For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

⁶ And when the woman saw that the tree was **good** for food, and that it was **pleasant** to the eyes, and a tree to be **desired** to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

FIVE STAR SENTENCE: Do not try to justify disobeying a **“thou shalt not”**.

If you do not repent, two things will happen:

a). You will **reap** what you **sow**.

1). Galatians 6:7- Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man **soweth**, that shall he also **reap**.

b). If you keep going in that same direction, you will reap **more** than what you sow.

2). Hosea 8:7a- For they have **sown** the **wind**, and they shall **reap** the **whirlwind**:

III. You Must Deal with a Spirit of Doubt

1). Matthew 21:21-22- ²¹ Jesus answered and said unto them, Verily I say unto you, If ye have faith, and **doubt not**, ye shall **not only** do this which is done to the fig tree, but also if ye shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; it shall be done.

²² And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, **believing**, ye shall receive.

FIVE STAR STATEMENT: We do not need “**more**” faith. We need “**less**” doubt.

2). Matthew 17:19-20- ¹⁹ Then came the disciples to Jesus apart, and said, **Why** could **not** we cast him out?

²⁰ And Jesus said unto them, **Because of your unbelief**: for verily I say unto you, If ye have **faith** as a **grain of mustard seed**, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.

3). Luke 17:5-6- ⁵ And the apostles said unto the Lord, **Increase our faith**. ⁶ And the Lord said, If ye had faith as a **grain of mustard seed**, ye might say unto this sycamine tree, Be thou plucked up by the root, and be thou planted in the sea; and it should obey you.

The disciples thought that they had a “faith” problem. They had a “*doubting*” problem.

One of the main causes of us “not standing” on the truth, is when the circumstances, and the situations around us, are the *exact opposite* of what we were hoping, expecting, and praying for.

This is when life doesn’t make sense! You must refuse to believe what you *see* and *feel*. Because most of the time, they will contradict the Word of God.

BOTTOM LINE: You need to decide if “all” of God’s Word is true, “all” of the time. And, if that is the case, then “stand” on it; regardless of what is happening, or not happening, around you.

1). Ephesians 6:13-14a- ¹³ Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to with**stand** in the evil day, and having done all, to **stand**. ¹⁴ **Stand** therefore,...

The opposite of “standing” is to waiver, to bounce back-and-forth.

2). James 1:6- But let him ask in **faith**, nothing **wavering**. For he that **wavereth** is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and **tossed**.

