

# **Stand for Truth!!!**

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There's a common belief going around today that truth is whatever works for you. People say things like... "Well that's the way you grew up, you grew up Muslim... and if that's how you want to worship 'God' it's all good. Or maybe they say, "You have gay tendencies, so 'God' made you that way... so it's ok for you to be gay... after all 'God' must have wanted you to be gay, if you feel that way."

Satan wants you to believe that there is **no** right from wrong. He wants you to think its ok to do whatever you want, and believe whatever you want, so long as you don't offend anyone. **But that is a LIE.**

**Illustration:**

**Egg and gravity. The egg (Phil) claims he doesn't believe in gravity. Phil says that gravity is just a word that some people came up with, and if he doesn't want to believe in it, than it won't be true for him. DROP EGG. Phil's belief in gravity did not change that fact that gravity is real and it affected him.**

## **1. TRUTH EXISTS - believe it or not!!!**

Just as gravity affected Phil, no matter what he believed. Truth is something that is REAL and it affects us, whether or not we choose to acknowledge that truth exists.

Denying truth won't make it disappear, and it won't make it any less true. Truth is anything that is absolutely certain. Truth is what someone is sworn to tell in court (though often people don't).

**Video Clip: (Court scene -show or movie)**

Imagine how much easier it would be for lawyers, judges, and juries to solve cases if everyone (including the guilty) would just tell the truth!!!

Truth is the opposite of a lie. A lie is invited to try to deceive or confuse someone. To make them believe something that is NOT true. Sometimes people lie to try to get themselves out of trouble. Maybe your parent asks you if you did your homework yet... and you say yes because you know if you told the truth you may get in trouble for not doing it, or you may have to go do it immediately and miss your favorite TV show. What a tragedy that would be! So you fabricate a very convincing lie. "Yes!" (*you say strongly, as if you are offended they even asked*) "of course I did my homework."

## 2. Satan is the FATHER of LIES

### **John 8:44 NIV**

You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for **there is no truth in him**. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for **he is a liar and the father of lies**.

The devil is a murder and liar. He is always trying to deceive people and make us believe lies. And the devil's got a lot of practice. He's been a liar ever since he decided that he would try to take over heaven, and be higher than God. He failed by the way. Ever since, he's been twisting the truth, from when he lied to Adam and Eve in the garden, to when he tried to tempt Jesus in the wilderness, until today when he tries to convince us that it's ok to have sex before marriage. "After all everyone else is doing it." (Satan's favorite trick.)

Not only does the devil lie to us and try to deceive us... he wants us to be just like him. The devil would love it if every one of us would be liars like him... Because then we would be helping the devil to bring confusion and destroy lives, just like the devil does.

Well you may say, "But just telling a little white lie isn't going to hurt anybody." The bottom line is this... **if you are dishonest, than people won't trust you.** If you want people to trust you, you've got to be real all the time.

**One lie leads to another.** If you think it is ok to tell a white lie, realize that once you begin to lie, it gets easier and easier. Lying is a trap of the enemy... and if you open the door for it, it will suck you in. So avoid it all together. **Be honest. Tell the truth, and don't twist the truth to make it whatever you want it to be (that's what Satan does).**

### 3. Jesus Is TRUTH

#### John 14:6

Jesus answered, "I am the way and **the truth** and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

When we are **STANDING** for **TRUTH** we can't overlook Christ. **Jesus IS TRUTH.** He is the personification of **TRUTH**, truth w/ skin on.

Some people want to believe in "science" and they use their "science" which consists of some truth combined with a lot of "theories" (speculations) to "prove" things that contradict God's word.

**Video Clip: Nacho Libre** - Why do you have to judge me because I only believe in science...

Evolution claims that there is NO God that created everything... we all "evolved". But much of what "scientists" base evolution on is fiction, "theories" which can **not** be proved.

Anybody like to watch CSI???

In C.S.I. they are always trying to find out the truth based upon the evidence. **If people take an honest, unbiased look at the world around us, the evidence points to a Creator.**

We know that the Creator is the eternal God. The ONE TRUE God, and that His Son Jesus Christ is our hope for salvation. Jesus IS TRUTH.

**Challenge:**

I challenge you to STAND FOR TRUTH. If you don't stand for something you'll fall for anything. Why not stand for God and his Son Jesus Christ. They are real, and if you are truly looking at the evidence... you'll learn that.

Who here wants to STAND FOR TRUTH?!?

If you want to stand for truth, stand up on your feet right now, to make that statement.

Also Note: One way we stand for truth and make a stand w/ Christ is in baptism. Explain...