



Truth or Consequences

1 John 2:18-29

Big Idea for the Series: Ten weeks of biblical truth designed to show the evidence the Apostle John points to revealing true, saving faith. John said, “I write these things to you so you may know you have eternal life.”

The Bottom Line: Real life requires real truth.

Introduction:

“It makes no difference what you believe, just as long as you are sincere!”

This popular philosophy is not only wrong, but it is unhelpful.

This idea has even made its way into the church. For example, a study shows that 57% of evangelical Christians believe that many religions lead to Heaven.

Faith in a lie will always cause serious consequences. Real life requires real truth.

Tension:

We live in an age where all truth is relevant, and everyone has an opinion about everything.

Truth often confronts our determined lifestyle, so we try and find a way around it or lie about it altogether.

Truth:

Read 1 John 2:18-29.

John quickly develops a serious tone in his letter by using two terms: “last hour” and “antichrist.”

In the last hour, while the spirit of the antichrist is invading the secular and the sacred, it is important that you know the truth, know why you believe the truth, and that you are rooted in a firm foundation of truth.

Believers who are controlled by the spirit of the antichrist will do three things:

1. Depart from fellowship (v. 18-19)
2. Deny the Son (v. 20-25)
3. Deceive the faithful (v. 26-29)

Stay far from lies by staying close to Truth – Jesus Christ.

Application & Conclusion

Learn sound doctrine and theology.

Study the scriptures deeply.

Develop a discipleship relationship with a mature believer in our church.

Watch out for false teachers and for deceived believers.

Next Steps:

- Memorize 1 John 2:24-25.
- Sign up for Biblical Counseling – www.southbaychurchli.org/counseling.
- Do an in-depth study on why it's important to have sound doctrine.