

“I Am the TRUTH: Believe in Me”

WDJS: The Sequel

March 28/29, 2009

Introduction:

***“I am the way, the truth, and the life.
No one can come to the Father except through me.”***

- 1. Public convictions: what you want other people to believe even though you may not believe them.***
- 2. Private convictions: what I sincerely think I believe, but when circumstances shift, they are revealed to be hollow.***
- 3. Core convictions: convictions revealed by our daily actions—what we actually do.***

**WHAT YOU THINK IS TRUE—YOU BELIEVE...
AND WHAT YOU BELIEVE YOU ACT UPON.**

TO BELIEVE IN JESUS

IS TO BELIEVE IN WHAT

JESUS BELIEVED IN.

John 14:6-11

*Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me. If you had really known me, you would know who my Father is. From now on, you do know him and have seen him!" Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus replied, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and yet you still don't know who I am? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father! So why are you asking me to show him to you? Don't you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I speak are not my own, but my Father who lives in me does his work through me. Just believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me. **Or at least believe because of the work you have seen me do.***

1. Jesus believed that God knew what was best for him

- That's why he spent time with his Father
- That's why he was always trying to please him
- That's why he submitted to him in love

<i>PUBLIC, PRIVATE, or CORE CONVICTION?</i>
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2. Jesus believed that truth is the best deterrent to sin

John 8:31-36

Jesus said to the people who believed in him, "You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings. And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." "But we are descendants of Abraham," they said. "We have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean, 'You will be set free'?" Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave of sin. A slave is not a permanent member of the family, but a son is part of the family forever. So if the Son sets you free, you are truly free.

- **Truth is: Your sin has been taken away**

John 1:29

*The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look! The Lamb of God who **takes away** the sin of the world!"*

- **Truth is: You need to be born again**

John 3:5-7

Jesus replied, "I assure you, no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit. Humans can reproduce only human life, but the Holy Spirit gives birth to spiritual life. So don't be surprised when I say, 'You must be born again.'

- **Truth is: You need to yield to the Holy Spirit**

John 4:24

For God is Spirit, so those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth.

John 17:17

Make them holy by your truth; teach them your word, which is truth.

John 14:17

He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. The world cannot receive him, because it isn't looking for him and doesn't recognize him. But you know him, because he lives with you now and later will be in you.

John 15:26

But I will send you the Advocate—the Spirit of truth. He will come to you from the Father and will testify all about me.

<i>PUBLIC, PRIVATE, or CORE CONVICTION?</i>
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3. Jesus believed the way he lived was the best way to live

- **Jesus believed giving was a better way to live than getting**

Acts 20:35

And I have been a constant example of how you can help those in need by working hard. You should remember the words of the Lord Jesus: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'

- **Jesus believed serving was a better way to live than being served**

Matthew 20:28

For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many.

- **Jesus believed forgiving was a better way to live than resentment and retaliation**

Matthew 6:12

...and forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who sin against us.

- **Jesus believed the best life was yet to come**

John 11:25-26

Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying. Everyone who lives in me and believes in me will never ever die. Do you believe this, Martha?"

<p><i>PUBLIC, PRIVATE, or CORE CONVICTION?</i></p>

Time of Commitment:

John 6:26

*Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, you want to be with me because I fed you, not because you understood the miraculous signs. But don't be so concerned about perishable things like food. Spend your energy seeking the eternal life that the Son of Man can give you. For God the Father has given me the seal of his approval." They replied, "We want to perform God's works, too. What should we do?" Jesus told them, "This is the only work God wants from you: **Believe in the one he has sent.**"*

John 16:9

*The world's sin is that it refuses to **believe** in me.*