

Hard Truths

Big Idea: Listening to hard truths is challenging but vital to our spiritual _____.

Hard Truths: A fact that is difficult to _____.

John 8.39-47 (ESV)

39 They answered him, "Abraham is our father." Jesus said to them, "If you were Abraham's children, you would be doing the works Abraham did, 40 but now you seek to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. This is not what Abraham did. 41 You are doing the works your father did." They said to him, "We were not born of sexual immorality. We have one Father—even God." 42 Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and I am here. I came not of my own accord, but he sent me. 43 Why do you not understand what I say? It is because you cannot bear to hear my word. 44 You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies. 45 But because I tell the truth, you do not believe me. 46 Which one of you convicts me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe me? 47 Whoever is of God hears the words of God. The reason why you do not hear them is that you are not of God."

John 1.14 (NLT)

So the Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's one and only Son.

James 1.2-4 (NLT)

Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. 3 For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. 4 So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.

4 WAYS HARD TRUTHS HELP US GROW...

1) REVEAL _____.

John 8.39-40 (ESV)

They answered him, "Abraham is our father." Jesus said to them, "If you were Abraham's children, you would be doing the works Abraham did, but now you seek to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. This is not what Abraham did.

John 8.41 (ESV)

You are doing the works your father did."They said to him, "We were not born of sexual immorality. We have one Father - even God"

4 ways hard truths help us grow...

2) REVEAL our willingness to _____.

John 8.42-43 (ESV)

Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and I am here. I came not of my own accord, but he sent me. Why do you not understand what I say? It is because you cannot bear to hear my word.

John 5.23 (ESV)

that all may honor the Son, just as they honor the Father. Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him.

4 ways hard truths help us grow...

3) REVEAL our _____ . (44-45)

John 8.44-45 (ESV)

You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies. But because I tell the truth, you do not believe me.

4 ways hard truths help us grow...

4) REVEAL the _____ of Jesus.

John 8.46 (ESV)

Which one of you convicts me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe me?

John 8.47 (ESV)

Whoever is of God hears the words of God. The reason why you do not hear them is that you are not of God."

Big Idea: Listening to hard truths is challenging but vital to our spiritual growth.

Our Hope For You:

- 1) You accept the TRUTH of Jesus.
- 2) During this next week, what is a hard truth you need to give attention to and work on?