

The Truth Will Set You Free, Part 2

Jesus did not say, “The truth will make you right.” He claimed, “The truth will set you free” (**John 8:32**). The truth will set us free from sin. This doesn’t simply mean knowing the truth will get us forgiveness. It means the truth will set us free from the bondage and control of sin (cf. **Romans 7:14-25**).

As we learned last week, this is not simply a matter of knowing the pattern. Lots of us know these truths and yet are still bound by our sins. Rather, Satan is a bit more insidious with those of us who know the laws of God. He gets us to believe more subtle lies to keep us bound in sin.

I appreciate the help I received this week in figuring out some of the lies we need to shatter with truth to free us from our sins. We’ll look at a few today and continue with more next week.

Lie #1: Satan really isn’t real or, at least, he’s not out to get you.

The truth: Satan is a roaring lion seeking someone to devour and that someone is you (**I Peter 5:8**). No, that caricature you’ve seen in a red jump suit, with pointy tail, horns, and a pitchfork isn’t real. That is a figment of the imagination. But Satan is a real enemy and he will stop at nothing to get your soul. The only way to win is to surrender to God.

Lie #2: I’m not good enough to be saved.

The truth: Well, this may not be so much a lie as it is twisting the truth to the wrong end. It keeps us looking at the wrong end of salvation. Satan wants us to keep looking at ourselves. If we ever look at God, we might learn that no matter who we are, He is good enough to save us. **Romans 5:8-10** says while we were sinners Christ died for us. The issue is not about how good we are; it is about how good God is. If we keep letting Satan get us to look at ourselves, we won’t be saved. But if we start looking at God, we can break free from our sins because while we are not good enough because of our sins, God is good enough to set us free from our sins.

Lie #3: I’m better than so-and-so.

The truth: This lie traps us because it lets us turn a blind eye to where we are sinning, thinking our sin is not so bad so we don’t have to surrender it to God. **James 2:10-11** says if we keep the whole law but fail in one point, we’ve become accountable to and guilty of the whole law. The same law that says don’t commit adultery says don’t gossip and don’t lie. Unless we are perfect, we aren’t better than the other person. We’ve broken the same law they have and need a Savior just as much as they do.