



### The Truth About Lies

Bob Schwahn | Lead Pastor | September 11, 2022

#### *John 8:31-45 (NIV)*

"There is no neutral ground in the universe: every square inch, every split second, is claimed by God and counterclaimed by Satan." **C. S. Lewis**

#### 1) The Enemy is Real

"There are two equal and opposite errors into which our race can fall about the devils. One is to disbelieve in their existence. The other is to believe, and to feel an excessive and unhealthy interest in them. They themselves are equally pleased by both errors, and hail a materialist or a magician with the same delight." **C. S. Lewis Screwtape Letters**

#### 2) The Enemy's Goal is to Destroy

*Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. 1 Peter 5:8 (NIV)*

*The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. John 10:10 (NIV)*

#### 3) The Enemy's primary strategy is LIES

*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. Yet because I tell the truth, you do not believe me!*

**John 8:44b-45 (NIV)**

TRUTH > That which corresponds to reality

Beliefs > Behavior > Become



## TODAY'S MESSAGE:

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*Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." **John 14:6 (NIV)***

What lies do you believe?

#### Reflection Questions:

- 1) What evidence do you see in the world that peoples 'mental maps' are broken and off (people are believing lies and unreality)?
- 2) "The primary strategy of Satan to destroy people is lies and deception." Agree or Disagree? Explain your answer.
- 3) If spiritual battle is primarily the battle of TRUTH vs. LIES, how do we engage in this battle? How will we know if we are winning this battle?
- 4) How have you seen your life impacted by believing lies? What did you experience? How have you experienced TRUTH setting you free?
- 5) Lies we believe can be difficult to detect because the best lies are the ones that seem true. How then can we continually surface the lies we believe?
- 6) Take some time to reflect and ask the Holy Spirit (called the Spirit of Truth in Scripture) to bring to your mind thoughts you have about God, yourself, or life that may be lies. Write down what comes to your mind. If you are in a group, share those with your group. What would be the Truth God would want to speak into your life to counter that Lie?
- 7) What is the role of Scripture in helping us create an accurate 'mental map' of reality? What do you do when something we read in Scripture conflicts with our 'mental map'? Explain.