

## A HUNGER FOR TRUTH



### INTRODUCTION

- Before taking a trip, you need a road map
- Review: Five Features of the Family of God: A Love for Christ, A Hunger for Truth, A Culture of Grace, A Mind to Work, a Heart for Missions.
- Children have both a need and desire for live-giving milk.

### A HUNGER FOR TRUTH (1 PETER 2:1-5)

- It is a \_\_\_\_\_ desire – “like newborn infants” (v. 2)
- It is a \_\_\_\_\_ desire – “long for” (v. 2)
- It is a \_\_\_\_\_ desire – “the pure spiritual milk” (v. 2)
- It is a \_\_\_\_\_ desire – “put away all malice” (v. 1)
- It is a \_\_\_\_\_ desire – “that you may grow up” (v. 2)

### THE CENTRALITY OF TRUTH

- Jesus prayed to the Father, “\_\_\_\_\_ them in the truth; your word is truth” (Jn. 17:17). As we read and study God’s Word, we are transformed more into the image and likeness of Christ (Rom. 12:2).
- The church is the \_\_\_\_\_ and buttress of the truth (1 Tim. 3:15). The church is not above Scripture. Rather, Scripture is above the church. But the church is responsible to guard and spread it.
- Our worship should be in both spirit and in \_\_\_\_\_ (Jn. 4:23).
- Teachers who wish to be approved by God must “\_\_\_\_\_ handle the word of truth” (2 Tim. 2:15)
- God’s Word and character are inseparable. We love the Word of God because we love the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Word. (Ps. 138:2).
- Our postmodern world struggles deeply with the idea of \_\_\_\_\_ truth. We must humbly, yet unapologetically, be willing to say, “Thus saith the Lord” (Ex. 4:22; Is. 44:24-26; 2 Tim. 3:16-17)
- Paul challenged Timothy and all future spiritual leaders to “follow the pattern of sound words” and “\_\_\_\_\_ the good deposit entrusted to you” (2 Tim. 1:13-14).
- \_\_\_\_\_ warfare is ultimately a battle over truth. Satan’s original question was, “Did God actually say?” (Gen. 3:1). Our strategy is to take every thought captive as we destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God (2 Cor. 10:4-5).
- Baptist Faith & Message: “The Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is God’s revelation of Himself to man. It is a perfect treasure of divine instruction. It has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter. Therefore, all Scripture is totally true and trustworthy. It reveals the principles by which God judges us, and therefore is, and will remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and religious opinions should be tried. All Scripture is a testimony to Christ, who is Himself the focus of divine revelation.”

### LOVE FOR TRUTH IN THE LOCAL CHURCH

- We will read, study, listen, meditate, memorize, and sing God’s Word both privately and \_\_\_\_\_.
- We will make Bible Study a priority in the worship service and come \_\_\_\_\_ each week.
- We will train our teachers to study and teach God’s Word with a focus on the author’s original \_\_\_\_\_, and help students make relevant applications.
- We will treat the Word of God as \_\_\_\_\_ for all matters of life and godliness, and not let secular ideas creep into our understanding of God and man.
- We will remain dependent on the \_\_\_\_\_, who gives us the ability to understand (1 Cor. 2:14-16).
- God’s Word is like a \_\_\_\_\_. “He reproveth, corrects and instructs in righteousness; he is training us ‘that we may share in his holiness’” (J.I. Packer, *God Has Spoken*, pp. 83-84).