

Jn 1:14 Jesus is Full of Truth and Full of Grace (LCCM—2/20/22)

Jn 1:14—“The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

Introduction

In our world, many people have lost the compass to their lives.

- There seems to be no standard to abide and reflect; we are not sure how to discern right from wrong.
 1. Many people would gladly accept a free Packer’s game ticket on a Sunday morning, even if that means they will have to miss their Sunday worship.
 2. Many people would gladly welcome an all expense vacation package in Hawaii over the weekend, even if it comes at the cost of missing their Sunday worship.
 - Packer’s game and all expense paid vacation are nice distractions, but they cannot be a substitute for our worship before our living God.
 - But, that’s the world we are living in, and sadly, that also reflects many Christian hearts.

Brothers and sisters, what determines your decision, the steps you take in your life?

- Because we Christians believe that Christ is our God and Lord, we need to look to Him and find our compass, our authority, to guide us through the maze of our lives.

Jesus is full of truth

Today, God’s word presents Jesus in two lights, full of grace and full of truth.

- Let’s see what it means for Jesus to be full of grace and full of truth and how that impacts our lives.

I. First, let’s learn what it means that Jesus is full of truth.

People, there are a lot of information floating in our world.

1. The internet—has brought all the information to us, all we need to do is ask Google or Siri—and she immediately answers any question we might have.
 2. And what about the GPS—it’s such a great invention; unlike before the GPS when we used to get easily lost whenever we made one wrong turn, but now, there’s absolutely no panic even in the most unfamiliar place, because the GPS knows exactly where to turn, where to go.
 - If information is knowledge, then the world has it covered with Google and all the other incredible inventions she has created—they are really good.
- So, why is it important for us that Jesus is full of truth, when we have Google and these other useful inventions that can provide all the informations we need?

- If what we need are simply facts, then, there really is no need for Jesus to give us any truth.
 - Unfortunately, all that knowledge does not bring us an inch closer to heaven; they do not have the power to cleanse our sinfulness, do they?
 - Information from Google will not bring us face to face with our Savior, for the knowledge of the world has no power to change our eternal destiny, that is why, we need Jesus' full of truth into our lives.

God's truth truly changes us.

- Jesus came in the flesh and dwelt among us, so that He could take our place on the cross, for our sins, as our Substitute
 - Because Jesus was crucified and resurrected—
 - We transform from a sinner bound to an eternity in hell, to God's holy people, who will enter into God's everlasting kingdom.
 - We change from God's enemy to His friend; in fact, He adopts us into His family, as His children.
- May I ask, how does God's truth work in your life?
 1. Is God's truth useful for you, like good information?
 2. Or, more importantly, is God's truth the instrument God uses to touch and move your hearts and minds; is God's word His tool to change your values, your behaviors, your attitudes, creating a complete transformation in your heart?
- When God's word speaks about Jesus being full of truth, it is speaking about a power that transforms lives, that completely changes a person, inside and out.
 - Have you experienced this life transforming power of Jesus' full of truth?

Allow me to share three Scriptures from this gospel of John that have transformed my life.

- **Jn 4:4**—"Now He (Jesus) had to go through Samaria."
 - This chapter touched my soul probably the deepest, because I saw Jesus go through Samaria like the Good Shepherd, who would leave the ninety nine, in order to seek and find His one lost sheep.
 - And He knew exactly where to go, to the well—at precisely when to go, when no one else would be there—to save this one lost Samaritan woman—and as He knew how to save her, I know He knows how to also save me, and the people I am praying for.
- **Jn 8:6**—"They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing Him. But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with His finger."
 - Remember, this chapter was about an immoral woman caught in adultery and the Jewish leaders brought her before Jesus in the temple courts.
 - This chapter was probably the most fun, because here, I saw Jesus would not stand with the accusers, He would not stand with those who were holding on to the stones, but He remained lowly, even stooping to the ground and write, because He came to forgive us, rather than to condemn us in our guilt.

- **Jn 13:34**—“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.”
 - This verse shaped and transformed my life most, because here I saw Jesus gave me a new command—He made me turn away from my ways, and drink and rely only in Him, to love and to serve others, as He has done for me.

II. Question—How does Jesus’ being full of truth overflow unto the lives of others around us?

Jesus being full of truth mean so much more than just stating the facts accurately.

- Please listen to how God’s truth contradicts the world’s facts.
 1. Fact—holiness cannot dwell with sin, because holiness is like fire in a room full of newspaper—yet, the holy God, Jesus, would become, not the fire but the newspaper, so He could be burned for us.
 - Unlike the firemen who come out alive, Jesus would die in the fire of sin.
 2. Fact—a virgin cannot give birth, it’s impossible, yet, Jesus would do the impossible by wearing humility, for He would be born from a virgin.
 3. Fact—in our world, it is the disciples’ role to wash their Master’s feet, and yet, it is Jesus, who took off His outer clothes, so He could wash His disciples’ feet.
 4. Fact—the Romans use the crucifixion to kill the worst criminals, and yet, Jesus, died on the cross, amongst two criminals, though He Himself never sinned.
 5. Fact—a majestic God cannot embody a sign of a curse, and yet, Jesus was lifted up on a tree, to become the Substitute for those who were cursed.
 6. Fact—the almighty God deserves the crown of glory, and yet, Jesus would wear the crown of thorns.
 7. Fact—the world knows that death is final, and yet, Jesus rose from the dead on the third day, promising to also raise all of His people, from our death.
- Please see, Jesus being full of truth is not merely about stating the facts accurately, or not lying, though they can be part of being truthful.
 - Being full of truth is **learning to see this world, with the eyes of God, and believing what God can do.**
 - **Rom 4:17**—“As it is written: ‘I have made you a father of many nations.’ He is our father in the sight of God, **in whom he believed**—the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not.”
 - Please see, the truth is not what the world says it is; in fact, the truth is not what you or any person believe to be true either.

The truth is seeing that Jesus is full of truth, and in Him, even the impossible truly becomes possible.

1. The world says that the Ethiopian cannot change his skin or the leopard cannot remove its spots, and yet in Jesus, not only our characters but even our eternal destinies change.
2. The world says that we are stuck with what we have, that man cannot change one’s nature, and yet, Jesus promises to change our sinful nature into His holy divine nature because He first changed His nature from God to man.

-
3. The world says that everyday is a day closer to death, yet in Jesus, everyday is truly a day closer to entering into God's everlasting kingdom.
 - The truth of this world is bound in the physical, in what we see and what we can imagine, but in Jesus, His truth transcends our world, transcends our imagination, transcends our limitations, transcends our nature.
 - Jesus' truth **shines** a light of eternity, which the world cannot fully comprehend.
 - People of God, when we speak with Jesus' fullness of truth, then it means that we are to speak with His eternity, we must speak with His amazing power to make the impossible truly possible.
 - God's truth is far more than just accurate facts; **God's truth brings eternity into this world, into our lives.**
 1. So, when we are speaking of Jesus' fullness of truth to a person who is sick, who is hurting, who is in need, we must learn to address those issues, not only with the worldly's facts, but with Jesus' fullness of truth.
 - In other words, when we are speaking of this pandemic, don't only speak about the danger and the risk it brings—but also speak about the incredible presence of God when everybody is keeping their social distancing, and yet, He can draw so near.
 2. When we speak full of truth, then we bring heaven into our problems, we bring heaven into our sicknesses, we bring heaven into our lives.
 - Because of heaven—we see our physical illnesses, trials, afflictions, and troubles differently, for there's no sorrow on earth that heaven cannot heal.
 - Because of heaven—we see our every day mundane life differently; we see our past and future differently, because Jesus is preparing our eternal home and will return to take us home, that we may reign with Him eternally.
 - Imagine a life, your life, FILLED WITH HEAVEN in your daily trials and temptations.
 - When Jesus says that the kingdom of heaven is near—He meant heaven must be part of your daily interpretation of your life.

Jesus full of truth came to give us a **new truth**, an eternity in His everlasting kingdom because He died and rose again from death for us.

- Now, as His people, we also must learn to speak full of Jesus' truth to the people around us, so that they too will experience the greatness and beauty of Christ Jesus.
 - That's why He called us to be His witnesses, to be His ambassadors to the people who have YET to meet our Amazing Savior and Lord, Christ Jesus.
 - Just as the heavens will declare the majesty of God through the beautiful scenes of nature, so may our lives display the worthiness and truthfulness of our God in the way we live and the words we speak.
 - Magnanimous, generous, thankfulness, loving, forgiving, humility, kindness, faithfulness are all glimpses of God we can share with our lives before others.
 - Isn't it awesome, that our lives can make the worthiness and truthfulness of Christ known to the people around us?
-

Jesus is full of grace

I. What does it mean that Jesus is full of grace?

God's grace includes God's mercy.

1. Mercy means not receiving what we deserved, that is, God is withholding His punishment over us, even though that is what we justly deserved.
2. Grace means an unmerited favor, an undeserved gift.
 - Did you see?—in God's mercy and grace over us, we don't receive the awful punishment that our sins really deserve, and instead, we are showered with God's gifts and goodness, when all we truly deserve is His wrath.
 - Did you hear?—God has cancelled our punishment, and instead came to us and keeps following us wherever we go, with His goodness.
 - **Rom 5:16**—"Nor can the gift of God be compared with the result of one man's sin: The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification."
 - God's goodness is running after, it's running after me.

People, Jesus being full of grace passes over our sins, and shower us with His cleansing, with His forgiveness.

1. Jesus being full of grace—invites the hurting, the sick, the needy, and the poor to come and buy from Him, buy without any money, because His gift is free.
2. Jesus being full of grace—is the reason why He provides for us abundantly, even though we have done nothing to receive such loving kindness.
3. Jesus being full of grace—is why He protects us from the wicked enemies, even though we too have done evil as His enemies.
4. Jesus being full of grace—is why He walks near us and befriend us, even though we had betrayed and denied Him, like Peter did, like Judas did, like we did.
5. Jesus being full of grace—is why He comforts us with His comfort, even though we have done so much harm.
6. Jesus being full of grace—is the reason why all of His goodness comes running after us, even though we don't know how to acknowledge or thank Him for them.
 - It is by His grace, full of Jesus' grace, that we exist and have received a new life.

II. Did you know God's full grace must be like a water flowing downstream in a creek, rather than like a standing water on a pond?

1. As you know, the standing water—can become a real problem, as it causes many health concerns for humans and animals.
 - Not only can standing water be unappealing in looks and smell, but it can become a breeding ground for bacteria, mosquitos, algae, and mold.
2. On the other hand, a downstream flowing water in a creek—can truly be life giving, for it will flow clean and fresh water, quenching the thirsty, refreshing the weary, and bringing peace to the troubled.

Like water, God's grace cannot stand still, it must not be kept only for ourselves—it must always flow and OVERFLOW to others around us.

- **When God's grace touches our lives**, the result is **GRACIOUSNESS**—in other words, we will become more gracious people.
 - In our world of judgmentalism, condemnation, cancel culture, anger, and so much ugliness, imagine if God's people become more gracious to the people around us?
 1. Can you see your family changing IF YOU become more gracious like our God?—Yes, our graciousness must begin at home, with our family.
 2. Can you see your work place changing because YOU are gracious like our God?
 3. I can see our neighbors and our world changing when God's people would live more graciously with the people around us.
 - God's grace is real.
 - God's grace touches lives.
 - God's grace can truly change our unholy behaviors and words, into graciousness.

We all want to be more gracious to our family and to the people around us, right?

- Then, first and most importantly, we really need **to drink God's full of grace**.
 1. Then, I can become a more gracious husband to my wife, as my wife can also become more gracious to me.
 2. Then, we can become a more gracious pastor's family, so that through us, our church family and many others can also taste God's amazing full grace.
 3. Then, all of our church family, can also become more gracious like our God and be His instrument of grace to your family, to your friends, to your co-workers, to your neighbors, and to every person you come across.
- Our lives can be gracious BECAUSE we have received God's full of grace.
 - So, let's learn to NOT live just being "Me"—let's NOT do my best version of me, either.
 - We have only one Lord, only one example, only One we want to imitate and grow most like, and that is, our Lord and Savior Jesus, who is full of truth, who is full of grace.

Our response

The life God gives us is amazing.

- We heard Jesus full of truth and full of grace here in chapter one, and throughout the rest of the gospel of John, we saw how beautifully He lived such truth and grace.
 - Now, Jesus clothed us with Himself, so that we also can exude His fragrance to the people around us.
 1. Brothers and sisters—let's daily first drink Christ's full of truth and full of grace in His word and prayer, so that He can transform us after His likeness.
 2. But, God's blessing must not stop with us—let it flow, let it overflow like a stream of water, and let's lovingly and humbly offer them to our families and to the people around us, so that the people who were once far from Christ, will **find our Lord Jesus irresistibly attractive**, because our lives, will reflect the beauty of Christ's full of grace and full of truth to them.

Jn 1:14 Jesus is Full of Truth and Full of Grace (LCCM—2/20/22)

- **Jn 1:14**—“The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”
- **Jn 4:4**—“Now He had to go through Samaria.”
- **Jn 8:6**—“They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing **Jn 13:34**—“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.”
- **Rom 4:17**—“As it is written: ‘I have made you a father of many nations.’ He is our father in the sight of God, **in whom he believed**—the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not.”
- **Rom 5:16**—“Nor can the gift of God be compared with the result of one man’s sin: The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification.”

Responsive Praise

The praise song—Goodness of God (Your goodness is running after...)

Prayer Time

1. For the people suffering—physically, mentality, emotionally and spiritually.
2. For our worship—that Jesus’ full of truth and full of grace will capture us and transform us more and more into His beautiful likeness.

Church News

1. Welcome—
2. New Sermon series—next week, we will start the “Little Known Characters” sermons.
3. Sunday Devotion Time—starting today, becomes a group discussion time, with the book, Rediscover Church. Join us (11am-12noon). If you don’t have the book, please see Pastor Joshua.