
SERMON NOTES November 20, 2022

Today's notes also available at CCPL.life/Connect

**Ephesians 6:14
The Belt of Truth
Pastor Mike**

I. Putting on the _____

II. Starting with the essential armor of _____

III. The foundation of _____

Like a soldier's belt, truth is _____ for everything else

a. Modern wisdom's _____ the foundation of truth

b. The freedom of God's _____

IV. Protection against the attack _____

a. The stronghold of lies that _____

What we think, feel, and _____

b. Fighting against lies with _____

V. Making the battle for truth _____

Questions for reflection, application, and discussion

1. After introducing the concept of spiritual warfare in verses 10-13, and after calling us to “put on the whole armor of God,” Paul begins by calling us to fasten on the belt of truth.
 - a. Why does Paul start with the belt of truth? Why is this the first piece of armor we are called to put on?
 - b. What is truth? How would you answer that question if asked? Why is this such an important question?
 - c. How do you think most unbelievers would answer the question, “what is truth?”
2. The modern ‘wisdom’ of our culture defines truth in a way that is contradictory to God and his revealed truth.
 - a. Many Christians, especially young believers who are taught these ideas at school, fall victim to these deceptions of our culture. Why is this, and what could, and should the church do better?
 - b. How would you respond to a person who stated that they were a Christian who believed in God, but that also believed that the world was the product of evolution?
 - c. How would you respond to a person who applauded your faith about God as true for you, but said that they believed something else, which was true for them?
3. Is it possible to know about the truth, and even defend Biblical truth without being committed to that truth, evidenced by a failure to seek to grow in our understanding and/or application of the truth to our lives?
 - a. How common is it for a Christian to know about the truth but not become a student of that truth who is committed to growing in their knowledge and application of that truth in their lives? How and why does this happen?
 - b. What value is there is knowledge of the truth if we are not committed to becoming students of that truth who seek to apply it to our lives?
 - c. Some people argue that if a person fails to pursue growing in their knowledge of the truth and its application to their lives, then they don’t *really* believe what they affirm as truth. How do you respond to this idea?
4. In John 8:31-32 Jesus said, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” What does he mean by this?
 - a. When Jesus said that the truth will set you free, it implies that we are currently not free, but enslaved to lies? How are we enslaved to lies?
 - b. Do most people who are enslaved to a lie know they are enslaved? Why or why not? If we are blind to the lies we believe, how can we become aware?
 - c. How does the truth set us free?
5. What is the difference between believing a lie in your mind, and believing a lie in your heart, or gut? Is it possible to believe one thing in your mind, and believe the exact opposite in your heart?
 - a. Can you think of an area in your own life where you have known (or currently know) one thing to be true in your mind, but believe something else to be true in your heart?
 - b. Can you think of a time when God exposed a lie that you believed in your heart at a subconscious level that you didn’t know that you believed? How did that happen?
 - c. How does God expose these lies and heal us from their effect?