

TRUTH BE TOLD :: Billy Phenix

INTRODUCTION

The ancient Grecian city of Corinth was a wild, weird place. When it came to morals and spirituality, it covered a wide spectrum. When the Apostle Paul wrote a letter back to the newborn Christian church in Corinth, he had some specific advice in mind for them. In this session, we'll take a look at Paul's advice and discuss why the truth of God must always be accompanied by the love of God as it goes out to our city.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are some characteristics that made Corinth such a unique city? Do you think it was easy or difficult for the little Christian church in Corinth to spread the message of Christ to the city? Why? How is this similar to our church and our city today?
2. Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-3. Paul reminds us that the moment that love leaves a Christian's agenda, so does the power of his message. If a person doesn't feel love, then they will have no "ears" to hear what a Christian has to say. Truly, people don't care what you know until they know you care. When have you seen this principle in action in your own life or in the lives of those around you... for better or worse?
3. Why do you think that the church sometimes has a tendency to "lose the love" in their message? What do you think causes that? How can it be prevented?
4. How does the life and message of Jesus demonstrate the perfect combination of showing both "truth" and "love" to the world?
5. Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-7. In these passages, Paul takes an extra step to make sure that we are all on the same page in our definition of love. What aspect of love is the hardest for you to demonstrate sometimes? What can you do to improve your ability to love in this area?
6. Is love something that is said, or something that is shown? Why do you say what you say?

THINK ABOUT IT

Who in your life has heard what you have to say, but might need to feel more love from you?

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

What are some specific, practical ways that you can demonstrate love to your friends, family, and community, so that people will be more open to the truth that is told in the message of Christ?

CHANGING YOUR MIND

Do everything in love. 1 Corinthians 16:14