



MESSAGE GROUPS - TRUTH BE TOLD (TOWNHALL) - WEEK 4

LEADERSHIP THOUGHT:

Everyone has the ability to convince themselves that lies are actual truths. Pastor Miles Welch digs deeper into the lies we believe and how the enemy uses them to take us out. Lies can have a stronghold in our life if we choose to believe them. Be ready to share with your group about how you have identified lies in your own life and how you practically overcame them.

MESSAGE OVERVIEW:

The only way to build a strong foundation in life is to focus on the truth of Jesus. When we do, every aspect of our faith journey is strengthened. However, when we allow lies to seep into the foundation of our lives, we begin to crack and become unsteady. This week we discussed recognizing the truth and we closed with a Town Hall Teaching to answer some practical questions about avoiding the lies we often tell ourselves.

ICE BREAKER

Do you use white-lies, why or why not? Have you ever hid the truth from someone to protect them?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

This week's town hall style is an opportunity for Q&A. Here are a few of the main topics covered;

The Anatomy of a Lie: Lies develop in our lives the **same way** each time we choose to believe them. As we learn the origin of lies and identify the pattern of believing them, we equip ourselves to identify a lie earlier. Identifying lies in your life and where they come from is essential to building a strong foundation of truth.

We learn from Pastor Miles Welch that Satan convinces us of the lies in our life through this process:

1. **Seduction** (makes sin seem pleasing and desirable)
 2. **Justification** (convincing yourself that sin is acceptable)
 3. **Accusation** (shaming you for doing what you just did)
- *Question:* When you find yourself justifying a lie in your own life, what is a good way to present the truth before you act on the lie?





- *Talk about the statement: "We aren't victims of satan's lies, we are volunteers"*

Your Heart & Strength For God: It is natural that in our walk with God that we feel seasons where it seems like God is right by our side and seasons where He is no-where to be found. We live in a society that values a heart for God over your strength for God. But, it is your strength for God that build builds a solid foundation even when your heart feels disconnected.

- *Question:* When you feel emotionally disconnected from God, what is a good practice for maintaining your strength for God, even when it becomes difficult?

Read Psalm 103:1-2 as a group: *"Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. 2 Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits—"*

- *Question:* Knowing that David is commanding his soul to "Praise the Lord" how does that change your perspective on seasons where you are more emotionally disconnected from God?

Confidence in Our Faith: In this week's message, Miles says that the key for recognizing the lies we believe is to search within ourselves to find a "root lie" that we believe about God. How we bow down to that lie and how we stand up to the truth manifest themselves in the same four ways:

1. **Hear it OR Think it**
2. **Ponder it**
3. **Believe it**
4. **Act on it**

- *Question:* How have you seen this pattern play out in your life with both a lie or a truth?
- *Question:* As you think about the ways you can identify the lies in your life, what is God revealing to you about the lies you choose to believe?
- *Question:* In light of this teaching, what are some ways you can bring truth into your life?
 - ie. *stop* volunteering yourself up for satan's lies or *start* acting on the truth

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES - *"The Inner Voice of Love"* -- Henri Nouwen

WRAP UP / CLOSE

As a small group, take some time to talk about some practical action steps you have taken to combat the lies in your own life. Miles presents the question, "Where do you see only parts of your circumstance as opposed to the whole circumstance?" *Feel free to discuss this question as a group, or ponder this question individually.* One of the best way to fight lies is to speak the truth over them, so take this opportunity pray the truth God has declared about us over your group.

