

## Scripture and Counseling

Introduction: My search for a method that could be understood and utilized by the individual in need.

THE PRINCIPLE: Truth as a means of grace. In His sovereign wisdom God has designed the truth to lead individuals into a living relationship with Himself and to produce a continual spiritual growth characterized by freedom from sin and the benefits of the Fruit of the Spirit.

THE PROMISE: And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free (John 8:32).

1. Truth exists.
2. Truth can be known.
3. Truth will enable a person to live in freedom.

THE EXPLANATION: Truth must be seen as a part of divine revelation.

1. Rightly understood, truth cannot be separated from the person of Jesus Christ (John 8:12; 14:6). The Savior works in the life of the person who will obey the truth. (Phil. 2:12,13)
2. Truth cannot be separated from repentance for sin, surrender to God, and the acceptance of the work of the Crucifixion and Resurrection. (Rom. 6:1-11)
3. Truth cannot be separated from practical decisions related to faith, love, and hope. (Hebrews 11:24-28)
4. Truth cannot be separated from the Biblical goal of living for the glory of God. (I Cor. 10:31)

THE APPLICATION: Truth must be understood, accepted, and practiced.

1. The areas of life where error has been used against the person (parents, etc.,) or practiced (inferiority) must be recognized and dealt with.
2. Truth as a blueprint for life must be accepted and aggressively applied.

THE ILLUSTRATIONS: Reconcile the Past (How to apply the truth to the past)

Take Charge (How to assume responsibility for truth)

The Daily Affirmation (How to affirm the blueprint)

Conclusion: This method enables the believer to identify with his or her spiritual commitment, church, Bible study, prayer life, walk of faith, and to accept personal responsibility.

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