

12 MYTHS

August 03, 2017

12 Myths that Christians Believe That Aren't in the Bible

A myth is a widely held but false belief or idea, a misrepresentation of the truth. Not everything believed as biblical truth is truly biblical. This series will seek to unravel 12 commonly accepted beliefs that cause bondage rather than liberty. Men need to be aware of how nuggets of truth become cornerstones for error when wrongly understood. We need help to build solid scriptural foundations that produce emotional freedom. Christian men have taken so much scripture out of context and made a whole religion out of it. This has caused so many problems for men who need help and instead of being thrown a lifeline; they are left to drown hanging on to a Bible verse thrown from the shoreline. This series looks at the adjustments that need to be made to help men who need solid direction in how to grow to full maturity.

A Man knows that maturity involves more than Bible knowledge.

Myth: "If I Know the Truth, I Will Grow!"

John 8:31-47 > Bad Application = "If I Know God's Truth, I Will Grow!"

II Corinthians 3:18 > Character Change—Transformation is the Goal.

Highland Colony Men's Roundtable

www.MensTable.com

Bible Verses John 8:31-47; II Cor. 3:18; Ps. 19:7-14; Job 22:21,22; John 5:39-47; II Cor. 5:18,19; Eph. 4:15,16; James 1:22-25; Luke 6:46-49

Music: Jeremy Camp - Walk By Faith

Videos: E: 60 7/23/17 - Mike Tyson interview

Resources: 12 Christian Beliefs That Can Drive You Crazy – Relief from False Assumptions by Dr. Henry Cloud & Dr. John Townsend

Myth: "If I Know God's Truth, I Will Grow!"

1. _____ > Psalm 19:7-14—Danger in Building an Entire System that Relies upon Bible Study and Truth as the Cure for Everything.
2. _____ > Bible study alone was never God's remedy for emotional and spiritual problems. See Job 22:21-22 > Job's suffering would end, his friend assured him, if only Job understood the truth and aligned himself with it. Yet God rebuked the friend for giving Job such erroneous advice.
3. _____ > Jesus challenged the Jewish Religious Leaders. They were so busy studying the minutia of the Scriptures that they didn't recognize the One to whom the Scriptures were pointing, the One who could lead them into the spiritual life that truly heals. See John 5:39-47.
4. _____ > The Bible is indispensable for spiritual growth, but the Bible is not the entire picture. The Scriptures themselves teach that Bible study is necessary yet insufficient in itself for leading one into a healthy Christian life.

Growth: Relationship is Critical.

1. _____ > The Pharisees had all the truth they needed, but they didn't have a relationship with God and with each other. The essence of the spiritual life is to be reconciled to God and have a vibrant relationship with him (II Cor. 5:18-19), and then to be reconciled to friends and neighbors in the same way: To love God with all your being and to love others as yourself.
2. _____ > Relationship is a non-negotiable for spiritual and emotional growth. The Bible teaches an *incarnational* gospel. For us to realize the grace of God, God had to put skin on. He had to become a man. God's grace is not something that we learn only by reading the Bible. We also realize it in human relationships.
3. _____ > You must go and connect with others, comfort one another, weep with those who weep, confront one another, confess to one another, encourage one another, and build one another up (Ephesians 4:15,16). You can't read the Bible and think that it says that studying it is enough. It points to Jesus and a relationship with him and his people.

Growth: You Need to Do the Truth!

1. _____ > Put the Bible down and go and do what it says to do (James 1:22-25 & Luke 6:46-49).
2. _____ > The Bible says to do the things that moves us toward wholeness: take responsibility for what is inside, uncover the darkness, grieve, forgive, reconcile, learn, confront, express feelings, confess, and support others.

ACTION: Journal This!

1. What does the Bible mean to you?
2. What relationships are most important to you? Where is there work to be done?
3. What actions do you need to take in order to follow God?

Bible Verses

John 8:31-47;

31 Then Jesus turned to the Jews who had claimed to believe in him. "If you stick with this, living out what I tell you, you are my disciples for sure. **32** Then you will experience for yourselves the truth, and the truth will free you." **33** Surprised, they said, "But we're descendants of Abraham. We've never been slaves to anyone. How can you say, 'The truth will free you'?" **34** Jesus said, "I tell you most solemnly that anyone who chooses a life of sin is trapped in a dead-end life and is, in fact, a slave. **35** A slave is a transient, who can't come and go at will. The Son, though, has an established position, the run of the house. **36** So if the Son sets you free, you are free through and through. **37** I know you are Abraham's descendants. But I also know that you are trying to kill me because my message hasn't yet penetrated your thick skulls. **38** I'm talking about things I have seen while keeping company

II Cor. 5:18,19;

18 That really set them off. The Jews were now not only out to expose him; they were out to kill him. Not only was he breaking the Sabbath, but he was calling God his own Father, putting himself on a level with God. **19** So Jesus explained himself at length. "I'm telling you this straight. The Son can't independently do a thing, only what he sees the Father doing. What the Father does, the Son does.

Eph. 4:15,16;

15 God wants us to grow up, to know the whole truth and tell it in love - like Christ in everything. We take our lead from Christ, who is the source of everything we do. **16** He keeps us in step with each other. His very breath and blood flow through us, nourishing us so that we will grow up healthy in God, robust in love. The Old Way Has to Go

with the Father, and you just go on doing what you have heard from your father." **39** They were indignant. "Our father is Abraham!" **40** And yet here you are trying to kill me, a man who has spoken to you the truth he got straight from God! Abraham never did that sort of thing. **41** You persist in repeating the works of your father." They said, "We're not bastards. We have a legitimate father: the one and only God." **42** "If God was your father," said Jesus, "you would love me, for I came from God and arrived here. I didn't come on my own. He sent me. **43** Why can't you understand one word I say? Here's why: You can't handle it. **44** You're from your father, the Devil, and all you want to do is please him. He was a killer from the very start. He couldn't stand the truth because there wasn't a shred of truth in him. When the Liar speaks, he makes it up out of his lying nature and fills the world with lies. **45** I arrive on the scene, tell you the plain truth, and you refuse to have a thing to do with me. **46** Can any one of you convict me of a single misleading word, a single sinful act? But if I'm telling the truth, why don't you believe me? **47** Anyone on God's side listens to God's words. This is why you're not listening - because you're not on God's side."

II Cor. 3:18;

18 All of us! Nothing between us and God, our faces shining with the brightness of his face. And so we are transfigured much like the Messiah, our lives gradually becoming brighter and more beautiful as God enters our lives and we become like him.

Ps. 19:7-14;

7 The revelation of God is whole and pulls our lives together. The signposts of God are clear and point out the right road. **8** The life-maps of God are right, showing the way to joy. The directions of God are plain and easy on the eyes. **9** God's reputation is twenty-four-carat gold, with a lifetime guarantee. The decisions of God are accurate down to the nth degree. **10** God's Word is better than a diamond, better than a diamond set between emeralds. You'll like it better than strawberries in spring, better than red, ripe strawberries. **11** There's more: God's Word warns us of danger and directs us to hidden treasure. **12** Otherwise how will we find our way? Or know when we play the fool? **13** Clean the slate, God, so we can start the day fresh! Keep me from stupid sins, from thinking I can take over your work; Then I can start this day sun-washed, scrubbed clean of the grime of sin. **14** These are the words in my mouth; these are what I chew on and pray. Accept them when I place them on the morning altar, O God, my Altar-Rock, God, Priest-of-My-Altar.

Job 22:21,22;

21 "Give in to God, come to terms with him and everything will turn out just fine. **22** Let him tell you what to do; take his words to heart.

John 5:39-47;

39 "You have your heads in your Bibles constantly because you think you'll find eternal life there. But you miss the forest for the trees. These Scriptures are all about me! **40** And here I am, standing right before you, and you aren't willing to receive from me the life you say you want. **41** "I'm not interested in crowd approval. **42** And do you know why? Because I know you and your crowds. I know that love, especially God's love, is not on your working agenda. **43** I came with the authority of my Father, and you either dismiss me or avoid me. If another came, acting self-important, you would welcome him with open arms. **44** How do you expect to get anywhere with God when you spend all your time jockeying for position with each other, ranking your rivals and ignoring God? **45** "But don't think I'm going to accuse you before my Father. Moses, in whom you put so much stock, is your accuser. **46** If you believed, really believed, what Moses said, you would believe me. He wrote of me. **47** If you won't take seriously what he wrote, how can I expect you to take seriously what I speak?"

James 1:22-25;

22 Don't fool yourself into thinking that you are a listener when you are anything but, letting the Word go in one ear and out the other. Act on what you hear! **23** Those who hear and don't act are like those who glance in the mirror, **24** walk away, and two minutes later have no idea who they are, what they look like. **25** But whoever catches a glimpse of the revealed counsel of God - the free life! - even out of the corner of his eye, and sticks with it, is no distracted scatterbrain but a man or woman of action. That person will find delight and affirmation in the action.

Luke 6:46-49

46 "Why are you so polite with me, always saying 'Yes, sir,' and 'That's right, sir,' but never doing a thing I tell you? **47** These words I speak to you are not mere additions to your life, homeowner improvements to your standard of living. They are foundation words, words to build a life on. **48** "If you work the words into your life, you are like a smart carpenter who dug deep and laid the foundation of his house on bedrock. When the river burst its banks and crashed against the house, nothing could shake it; it was built to last. **49** But if you just use my words in Bible studies and don't work them into your life, you are like a dumb carpenter who built a house but skipped the foundation. When the swollen river came crashing in, it collapsed like a house of cards. It was a total loss."

Are You Listening

Kirk Franklin

Would I believe you when you would say
Your hand will guide my every way
Will I receive the words You say
Every moment of every day

[chorus]

Well I will walk by faith
Even when I cannot see
Well because this broken road
Prepares Your will for me

Help me to win my endless fears
You've been so faithful for all my years
With one breath You make me new
Your grace covers all I do

yeah, yeah , yeah, yeah, yeah, ya

[chorus]

Well I'm broken- but I still see Your face
Well You've spoken- pouring Your words of grace

[chorus x2]

Well hallelujah, hallelu
(I will walk by faith)
Well hallelujah, hallelu
(I will walk by faith)

I will walk, I will walk, I will walk by faith
I will, I will, I will walk by faith

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2. **Healing Takes Work** > Bible study alone was never God’s remedy for emotional and spiritual problems. See Job 22:21-22 > Job’s suffering would end, his friend assured him, if only Job understood the truth and aligned himself with it. Yet God rebuked the friend for giving Job such erroneous advice.
3. **Missing Jesus** > Jesus challenged the Jewish Religious Leaders. They were so busy studying the minutia of the Scriptures that they didn’t recognize the One to whom the Scriptures were pointing, the One who could lead them into the spiritual life that truly heals. See John 5:39-47.
4. **God’s Word** > The Bible is indispensable for spiritual growth, but the Bible is not the entire picture. The Scriptures themselves teach that Bible study is necessary yet insufficient in itself for leading one into a healthy Christian life.

Growth: Relationship is Critical.

1. **Truth alone saves no one!** > The Pharisees had all the truth they needed, but they didn't have a relationship with God and with each other. The essence of the spiritual life is to be reconciled to God and have a vibrant relationship with him (II Cor. 5:18-19), and then to be reconciled to friends and neighbors in the same way: To love God with all your being and to love others as yourself.
2. **Relationship is ESSENTIAL** > Relationship is a non-negotiable for spiritual and emotional growth. The Bible teaches an *incarnational* gospel. For us to realize the grace of God, God had to put skin on. He had to become a man. God's grace is not something that we learn only by reading the Bible. We also realize it in human relationships.

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3. Go to Community > You must go and connect with others, comfort one another, weep with those who weep, confront one another, confess to one another, encourage one another, and build one another up (Ephesians 4:15,16). You can't read the Bible and think that it says that studying it is enough. It points to Jesus and a relationship with him and his people.

Growth: You Need to Do the Truth!

- 1. Practice the Truth** > Put the Bible down and go and do what it says to do (James 1:22-25 & Luke 6:46-49).
- 2. Moving Toward Maturity** > The Bible says to do the things that moves us toward wholeness: take responsibility for what is inside, uncover the darkness, grieve, forgive, reconcile, learn, confront, express feelings, confess, and support others.

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