

***H E A L T H Y
C H A R A C T E R***

Faithfulness: Speaking The Truth In Love



Liar, liar, pants on fire!

"Immigrants are dangerous."

"Stuffed animals are dangerous"

"I was at work all day."

Liar, liar, pants on fire!

"I never liked him/her anyway."

"Sex outside of marriage isn't dangerous."

"You always ... ! You never ... !"

"I'm fine."

"That looks so good on you."

"Immigrants are dangerous."

"It's not the money, it's the principle." **"Stuffed animals are dangerous"**

"I was at work all day."

**"I Have Read & Agreed to the
Above Terms and Conditions."**

"I wasn't feeling well."

"I never got the message."

"Your baby looks so beautiful."

"She is only a friend."

"I never liked him/her anyway."

"Sex outside of marriage isn't dangerous."

"I'll be there in 5 minutes."

"I was just kidding."

"You always ... ! You never ... !"

"I'm fine."

"That looks so good on you."

"Immigrants are dangerous."

"It's not the money, it's the principle." "Stuffed animals are dangerous"

"I don't lie"

"I was at work all day."

"I Have Read & Agreed to the
Above Terms and Conditions."

"I wasn't feeling well."

Liar, liar, pants on fire!

"I never got the message."

"Your baby looks so beautiful."

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"You always ... ! You never ... !"

I. Why Can't Anyone Tell The Truth?

They believe because they have the truth you either have to share that truth or you're a legitimate target. They think they have the truth, but we don't believe you can have the truth. We think every individual counts and life is, therefore, a pilgrimage.

Bill Clinton



I. Why Can't Anyone Tell The Truth?

A. There is no universal truth - Y/N

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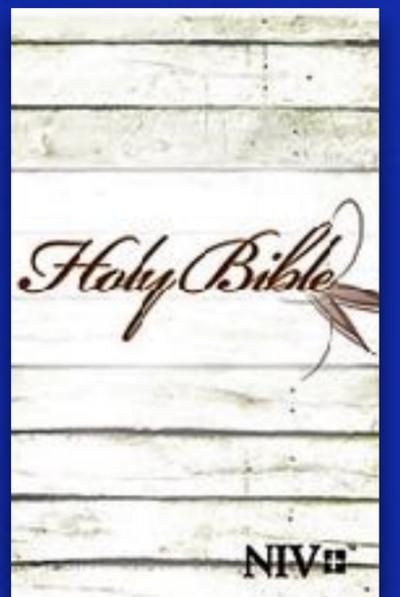
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- B. Truth can be a weapon - Y/N

I. Why Can't Anyone Tell The Truth?

- A. ~~There is no universal truth~~ - Y/~~N~~ **THERE TOTALLY IS UNIVERSAL TRUTH**
- B. Truth can be a weapon - Y/N **WE'VE ALL TWISTED TRUTH FOR OUR OWN GOOD**

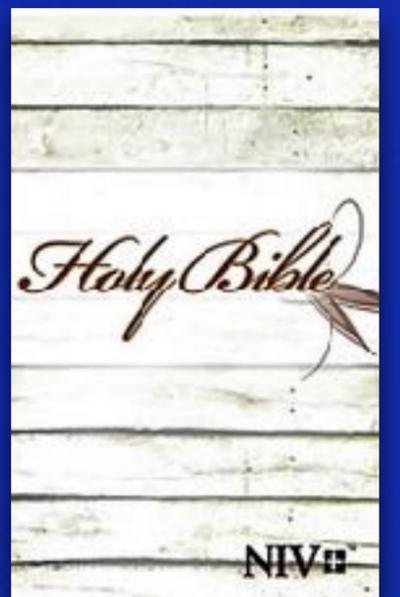
Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming.

Ephesians 4:14



Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.
16 From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

Ephesians 4:15



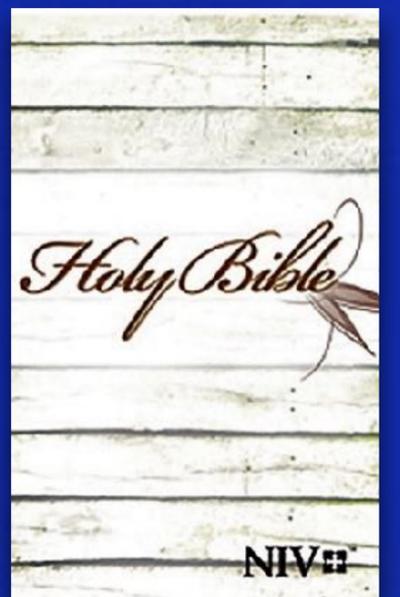
Ephesians 4:14-25
page 816



II. Speak The Truth In Love

¹⁷So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. ¹⁸They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. ¹⁹Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, and they are full of greed.

Ephesians 4:17-19

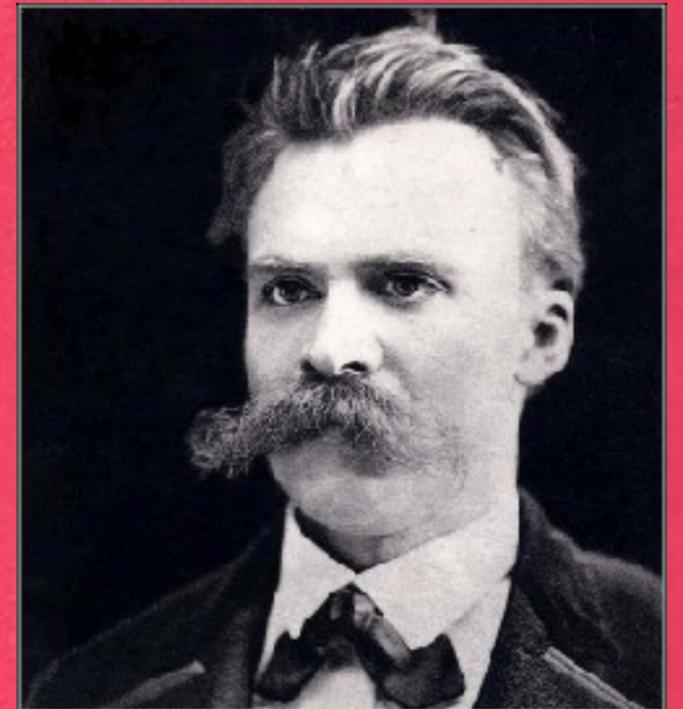


III. The Solution To Our Problem With Truth Lies In Our Heads, Hearts, Character

A. We can't handle the truth

“I did that” says my memory. I couldn’t have done that – says my pride, and stands its ground. Finally, memory gives in.

Friedrich Nietzsche Beyond Good and Evil

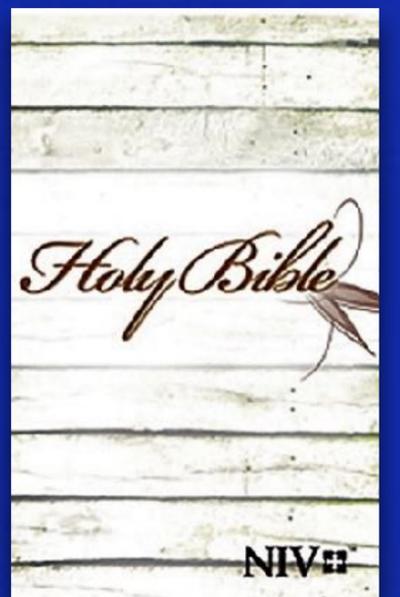


III. The Solution To Our Problem With Truth Lies In Our Heads, Hearts, Character

- A. We can't handle the truth
- B. Two big enemies of truth in us: Pride and Fear

²⁰That, however, is not the way of life you learned ²¹when you heard about Christ and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus.

Ephesians 4:20-21



IV. Meet The Truth

Here's what Paul is saying [to the Ephesians], "Yeah, the missionaries came. The evangelists came. The preachers came. They taught you, but you heard him." Every person who has moved from knowing about Jesus to knowing Jesus, every person who has moved from a hard heart to a soft heart, every person who has actually had a personal encounter with God knows what we're talking about here. Information became sensation. ... Religious people have information they believe. A Christian is someone for whom much of that information has become real to the heart. ...

Timothy Keller



Look at verse 20. He is saying everybody who actually has become a real Christian, everyone who has moved from knowing about Christ to knowing Christ, has moved from hearing about Christ to hearing Christ, to actually hearing his word, hearing his voice. Things you always may have known, things you may have always believed, become real. They become galvanized, and they become electrifying. They become real to your heart. Paul says if that hasn't happened, you're not a real Christian...

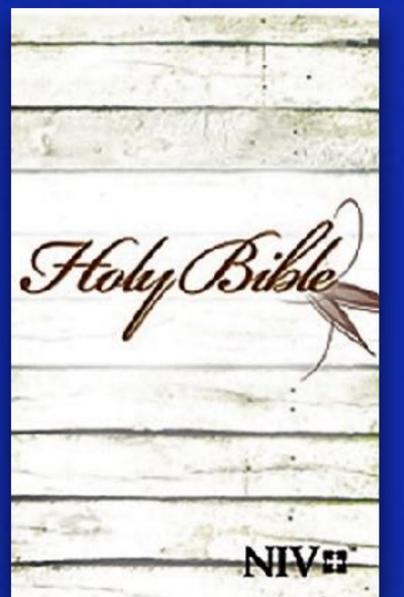
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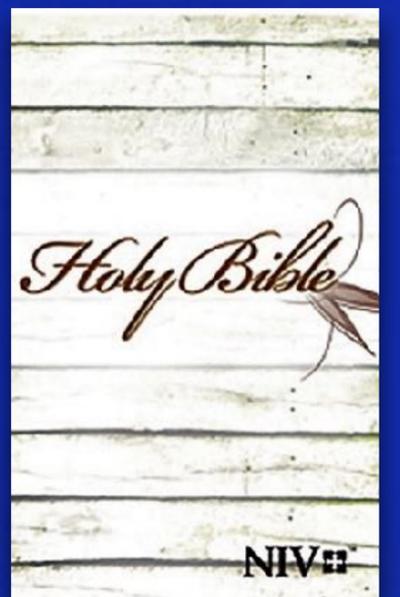
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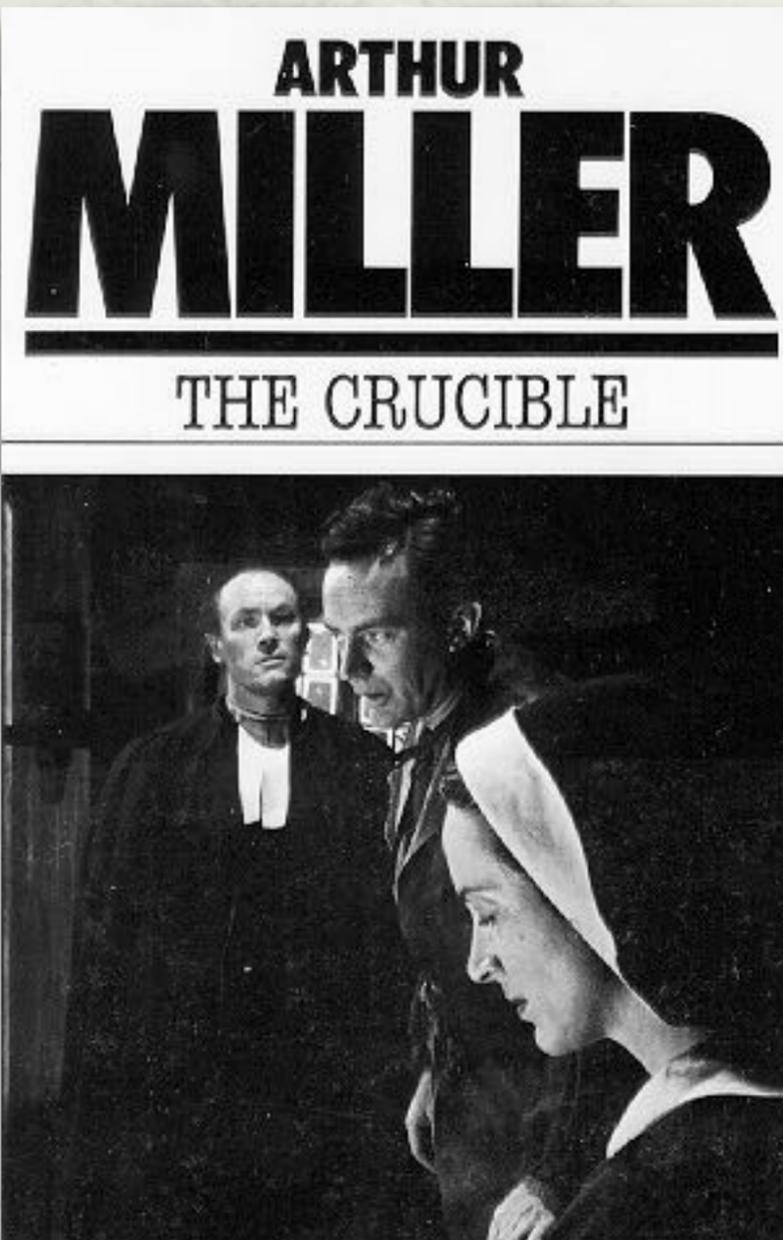
V. Learn The Story Of Truth

²²You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; ²³to be made new in the attitude of your minds; ²⁴and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. ²⁵Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body.

Ephesians 4:20-21



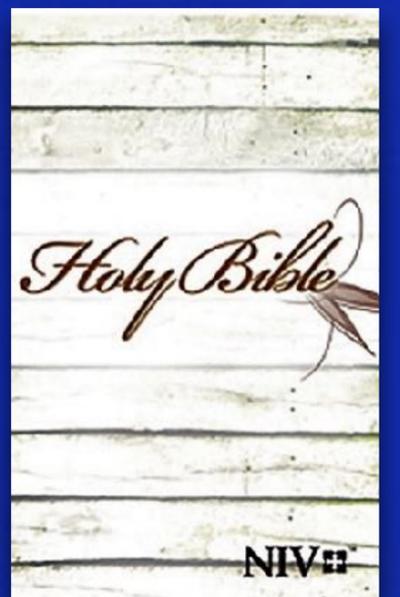
V. Learn The Story Of Truth



“God damns all liars,
Mary Warren,
God damns all liars.”

⁹Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices ¹⁰and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

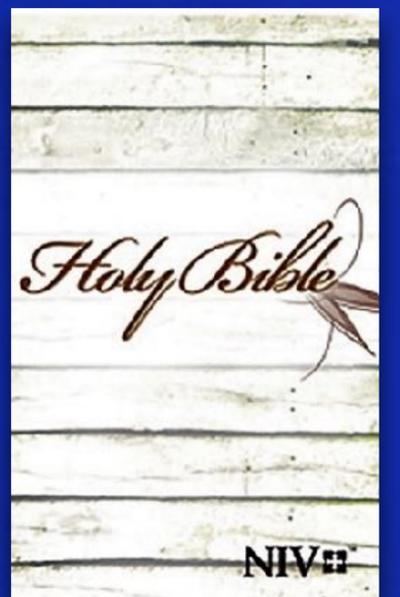
Colossians 3:9-10



VI. Enter Into The Story Of Truth

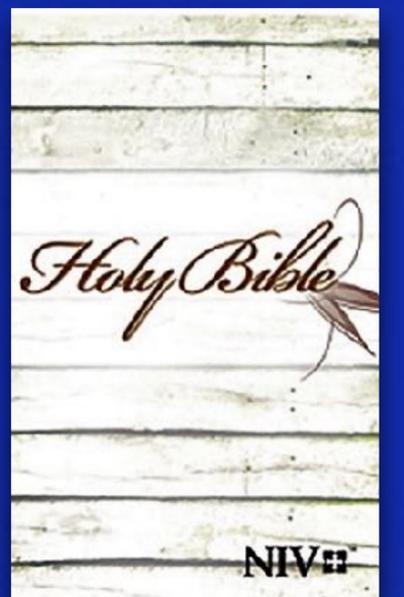
¹⁴The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:14



⁶Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

John 14:6

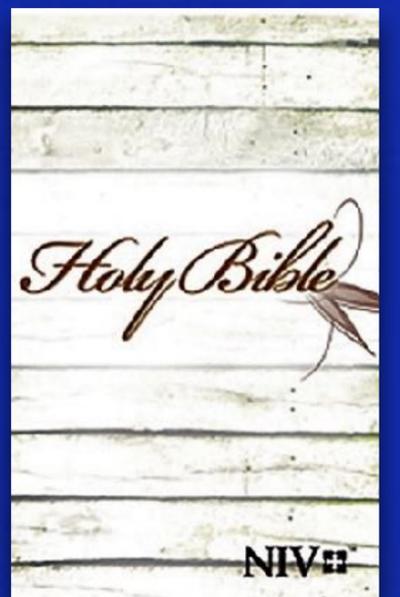


³³Pilate then went back inside the palace, summoned Jesus and asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?"

³⁴"Is that your own idea," Jesus asked, "or did others talk to you about me?"

³⁵"Am I a Jew?" Pilate replied. "Your own people and chief priests handed you over to me. What is it you have done?"

John 18:33-38



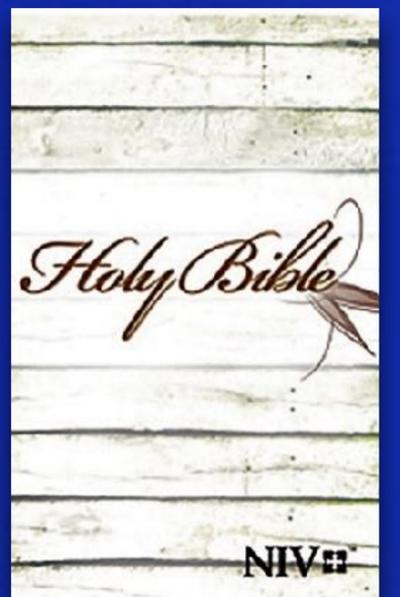
³⁶Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place."

³⁷"You are a king, then!" said Pilate.

Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me."

³⁸"What is truth?" retorted Pilate.

John 18:33-38



Enter into the story of truth