

**ULC Sermon Study Resource**  
***Crisis to Renewal // Renewal to Truth***  
**Pastor Gabe Kasper**  
**September 5th, 2021**

**Prayer:** Pause for a few moments to go to the Lord in prayer. Ask that He would draw near to you in this time, and open your heart and mind to hear His Word.

**Icebreaker: What was an old wives tale you grew up believing? (ex: swimming after eating)**

**Reading: John 8:31-47 (ESV)**

**Outline:**

- I. Be set free by the Truth (v. 31-34)
  - a. Everyone is a slave to sin in some way, and to be followers of Christ we need to abide in scripture to fully know that Truth and correctly see reality
  - b. We should welcome the correction God's Truth provides towards our perception of our own reality instead of getting offended by the notion that we're wrong  
**Q: *Why were the Jews blind to their sinful reality?***
- II. Believe in the Truth (v. 35-46)
  - a. The Jews perception of their reality covered up the fact that they were following the ways of the devil instead of God or Abraham who they claimed to be children of
  - b. Because we are born into sin, it's crucial we see our constant need for Truth in our lives and actively seek to apply it  
**Q: *How does Jesus respond to the Jews denial of their enslavement to sin?***
- III. Hear the Truth from God (v. 47)
  - a. Those who abide with God can hear His words, so when we don't abide with Him it's no longer His words we hear
  - b. When we pursue God and choose Him over our sinful nature, we can hear his presence in our daily lives and find a renewed spirit to face each day with  
**Q: *How could the Jews faith, or lack thereof, be seen in their lives?***

**Reflection/Application Questions:**

- 1) What are some ways you can actively abide in God's Truth?
- 2) How can resisting the correction of the Truth have a negative impact on your faith walk?
- 3) How is the Jew's reaction to correction and their blindness to their sin relatable to us today?
- 4) What stands in the way of applying God's Truth in every area of your life? In what areas is this hardest for you to do?
- 5) What will encourage you to continuously return to the Truth of God's word even when times get hard and you don't want to?
- 6) In what ways have you witnessed the renewal that God's word provides?

**Closing Prayer:**

Lord Jesus, we thank you that you're the one who came to set us free from the power of sin. To forgive us, to redeem us, and to give us new life in you. We pray that we would abide in that Truth and that we would abide in it in every area of our lives. Jesus, teach us how to do that. Send your spirit in our lives to point us to you so we can listen and truly hear the Truth of your word. We pray this all in your holy name, Amen