

**Scripture nugget - Remaining in the Truth by Adherence to God's Commandments** Watch carefully then how you live, not as foolish persons but as wise, making the most of the opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not continue in ignorance, but try to understand what is the will of the Lord (Ephesians 5:15-17).

Confusion, error, chaos, all kinds of moral and psychological disorder, and false doctrine surface when people repudiate the truth. We are living in unprecedented times when the search for truth is no longer considered a noble pursuit but is more and more conveniently ignored. Instead, a new false 'religion' that has so many people and organizations pledging their allegiance has arisen, and this is political correctness, holding great sway over the behaviour of people and organizations. People and big companies scramble over each other to be seen as politically correct. They are afraid to be labelled insensitive, unsympathetic, not in tune with the times. Political correctness has in turn spawned, and is also fed by other social ailments such as moral relativism and narcissism. An evil time such as this has been prophesized by Scripture. For the time will come when people will not tolerate sound doctrine but, following their own desires and insatiable curiosity, will accumulate teachers and will stop listening to the truth and will be diverted to myths (2 Tim 4:3-4). When people no longer think truth is important to uphold in their thoughts and behaviour, they open themselves to embrace falsehoods posing as good and true without knowing the difference as their overriding desire is not to search for the truth but to gratify their disorderly passions and selfish desires. In such a situation and mentality, whatever feels good is true and right, and should be pursued. Thus, that which are considered sins in the eyes of God are promulgated as desirable and even legalized. Such "myths" which destroy sanctity of life and the family include abortion, euthanasia, same sex unions and gender ideology.

Amidst the error and confusion in the world, our way forward is clear and certain. Jesus explains to us why the truth is important. At the highest level, the Truth is the way to eternal life (cf. John 8:32). It is the Truth that will save us from eternal damnation. When Jesus was standing in front of Pontius Pilate who was interrogating Him, Pontius Pilate asked Jesus: "What is the truth?" (cf. John 18:38). Pontius Pilate represents the mass of humanity who fail to recognize Christ as the personification of truth. For those who open their hearts to His divine teaching, Jesus teaches us clearly and simply: "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me" (cf. John 14:6). Such simplicity and profoundness in His teaching! One does not need to understand volumes of enlightened writings nor seek the solitude of lofty peaks in order to arrive at the all-important Truth.

Conversation with Jesus: Precious Lord, You exhort us not to continue in ignorance but to try to understand what the will of God is (cf. Ephesians 5:17). We need to know and understand Your teachings and put them into practice. These days are evil as warned by St Paul, and we need to know the truth so that we can reject falsehoods and man-made ideologies posing as good and desirable. You are the Eternal Truth, and all Your commandments and teachings are true. Your Word is truth, and we are sanctified by the truth (cf. John 17:17). To remain in the truth is to remain in Your love, fulfilling Your commandments of love. Give me a great love for and discernment of God's will so that I will always remain on the true path. Mary, Mother of Salvation, pure, holy and blessed pray for me. Thank You, Jesus. Praise You, Jesus.