

#### Jesus Words – Our Foundation

• Matthew 7:24-27 - <sup>24</sup> "Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. <sup>25</sup> And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. 26 And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. <sup>27</sup> And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it."

### Jesus – The Manifest Example

• **John 17:6** - <sup>6</sup> "I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word.

#### The Life of Jesus Impacted the Lives of the Apostles

- Luke 1:2 <sup>2</sup> just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word have delivered them to us,
- 1 John 1:1-2 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— <sup>2</sup> the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us
- John 19:35 He who saw it has borne witness—his testimony is true, and he knows that he is telling the truth—that you also may believe.

#### Keeping Your Word – Following the Words of Jesus

- Integrity is required for trust. If people can't trust your word, they won't trust you.
- Trust is necessary for influence. People *choose* those they let influence them, and this is based largely on trust.
- Influence is essential for impact. You can't make the impact you want to make unless you can influence others and shift their behavior.
- James 4:4 <sup>4</sup> You adulterous people. Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

#### Jesus Words Are From the Father

• John 17:7 - <sup>7</sup> Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you.

#### The Words of Jesus – From His Father

- John 7:16 So Jesus answered them, "My teaching is not mine, but his who sent me.
- John 8:28 So Jesus said to them, "When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am he, and that I do nothing on my own authority, but speak just as the Father taught me.
- **John 12:49** For I have not spoken on my own authority, but the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment—what to say and what to speak.

#### Simon Peter

• When we cling closely to Jesus' words then we can be like Peter.

• John 6:68 - Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life,

# Read, Study, Listen – Identify False Teaching

• **LISTEN** – to the words of Jesus and the Holy Scriptures – study and grow in discernment to identify false teaching.

• **Galatians 1:8-9** - <sup>8</sup> But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed. <sup>9</sup> As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed.

#### Jesus Words Are Truth

• John 17:8 - 8 For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me.

### Discerning Truth

3 Rules for Discerning Truth

- 1. Will This Honor and Glorify God and Jesus?
- 2. Does This Affirm and Comply With the Totality of the Holy Scriptures?
- 3. Does This Strengthen and Edify the Church/Body of Christ?

#### The Truth – Jesus Came From the Father

• John 15:15 - <sup>5</sup> No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you.

• John 16:29-30 - <sup>29</sup> His disciples said, "Ah, now you are speaking plainly and not using figurative speech! <sup>30</sup> Now we know that you know all things and do not need anyone to question you; this is why we believe that you came from God."

## If You Speak the Truth – Expect Resistance

• John 15:18-21 - 18 "If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. <sup>19</sup> If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. 20 Remember the word that I said to you: A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours. <sup>21</sup> But all these things they will do to you on account of my name, because they do not know him who sent me.

# Have Courage – Speak the Truth Transform Lives for Jesus

- 2 Timothy 1:7 <sup>7</sup> for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.
- 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 9 Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, <sup>10</sup> nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. <sup>11</sup> And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

### We Are One With the Father Through Jesus

• John 17:9-10 - <sup>9</sup> I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. <sup>10</sup> All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them.

### Jesus – The Only Way to the Father

- John 10:9 I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture.
- John 11:25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live,
- John 14:6 <sup>6</sup> Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

#### Baptism is Necessary for Salvation

#### • The Words of Jesus

- John 3:5 <sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.
- Mark 16:15-16 <sup>15</sup> And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation. <sup>16</sup> Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.

### Baptism is Necessary for Salvation

# • THE EXAMPLE AND TEACHING OF THE APOSTLES AND NEW TESTAMENT

- Acts 2:37-38 <sup>37</sup> Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" <sup>38</sup> And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
- Acts 22:16 <sup>16</sup> And now why do you wait? Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on his name.'

#### What Voice Will You Hear and Follow?

• Isaiah 30:20-22 - <sup>20</sup> And though the Lord give you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction, yet your Teacher will not hide himself anymore, but your eyes shall see your Teacher. <sup>21</sup> And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, "This is the way, walk in it," when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left. <sup>22</sup> Then you will defile your carved idols overlaid with silver and your gold-plated metal images. You will scatter them as unclean things. You will say to them, "Be gone!"

### Will You Follow the Voice and Words of Jesus?

• John 10:2-5 - <sup>2</sup> But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup> To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup> When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. <sup>5</sup> A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers."