



Revealing Words Bible Study

"1 + 1 = 2"

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When using simple math, "One plus one equals two." It's simple. It's undeniable. It's not up for debate. And that's the beauty of truth—it doesn't bend to opinion, personality, or presentation. It simply is.

Yet in life, we often reject truth not because it's false, but because we don't like the way it's delivered—or who delivers it. We dismiss wisdom because it comes from someone we dislike, or ignore insight because it's wrapped in a tone we find offensive. But truth doesn't lose its power when spoken by imperfect lips. One plus one still equals two, even if a hypocrite says it harshly.

This matters deeply. Because when we let our biases toward the messenger cloud our judgment of the message, we risk missing out on clarity, growth, and even transformation.

Many reject Christianity not because of its founder—Jesus—or its teachings, but because of its followers. "Christians are hypocrites," they say. And yes, some are. But hypocrisy among followers doesn't invalidate the truth of the faith. If a flawed person says "one plus one equals two," their flaws don't make the statement false.

Let's break it down:

Criticisms of Christianity focus on the behavior of believers, not the life or teachings of Jesus.

The Bible—the core doctrine—is rarely cited as the reason for disbelief. When cited as a reason, even the criticism is flawed.

Many Christians are actively wrestling with their shortcomings. That struggle doesn't disprove Christianity—it highlights the need for grace for a fallen humanity.

Imperfection which leads to separation from God is why Christianity teaches the need for a Savior.

Salvation is instant, but spiritual maturity is a lifelong journey.

So when evaluating Christianity—don't start with the followers. Start with its founder, Jesus Christ. He is the standard in which we must measure Christianity. Start with the teachings in the Bible. Start with the truths proclaimed in it.

Truth isn't fragile. It doesn't shatter when held by imperfect hands.

We all fall short. We all struggle. But truth stands independent of our failures. It's not defined by who says it—it's defined by what it is. Jesus is the way, the TRUTH, and the life.

So here's the challenge both in evaluating Christianity or anything else for that matter: Whenever you encounter a message, pause. Test it. Weigh it. Don't dismiss it because of the tone or the speaker or delivery of the message. Ask: Is it true?

Because in the end, truth doesn't need our approval to be real. It just needs our willingness to recognize it.

The Nature of Truth

1. Read John 14:6. Jesus says, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." How does this verse challenge us to evaluate truth based on Jesus rather than His followers?

2. Read Proverbs 3:5–6. How does trusting in God rather than our own understanding help us discern truth, especially when the messenger is flawed?

3. Can you think of a time when you rejected advice or truth because of who said it or how it was said? What was the outcome? How might that situation have changed if you had focused on the message instead?

Hypocrisy and Human Imperfection

4. Read Romans 3:23. "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." How does this verse shape our expectations of fellow believers?

5. Why is it dangerous to base our faith on the perfection of others?

6. Read Matthew 23:27–28. Jesus confronts religious hypocrisy. How should we respond when we see hypocrisy in the church?

7. How can we acknowledge this reality while still pointing people to Jesus?

Testing the Message

8. Read 1 Thessalonians 5:21. “Test everything; hold fast what is good.” How can we apply this principle when evaluating spiritual claims or teachings?

9. Read Acts 17:11. The Bereans were commended for examining the Scriptures daily. What habits can we develop to be more like the Bereans in our spiritual discernment?

10. How do we balance grace for the messenger with accountability for the message?

The Foundation of Belief

11. Read Matthew 7:24–27. Jesus speaks of building on a solid foundation. What does it look like to build your faith on the rock of Christ rather than the sand of human behavior?

12. If someone says, “I don’t believe in Christianity because Christians are hypocrites,” how would you respond using Scripture and personal insight?