

“GOD IS TRUTH” DEVOTIONAL & PRAYER

Our prayer this week focuses on God Who is "*Truth*". He is the One Who is real, actual, factual and full of integrity that we can trust in and lean on.

It comes from our prayer verse: John 17:17 "*Sanctify them by the Truth; Your word is Truth.*"

This verse was actually written when Jesus was praying over His own disciples, the ones that God had entrusted in His hands to be in close fellowship with Him while He was here on this earth. He asked God the Father to sanctify His disciples by the *truth*, and then He clarified what *Truth* is...His *Word*. God's *Word is Truth*, not His Word 'contains' truth, but His Word IS *Truth*...because *His Word is Him*. God's Word, the Bible, reveals His character, His love, His mercy, His integrity, His honesty and everything that is about Him. As we read and hear it, it convicts us in the darkest corners of our hearts and as we understand the *Truth* about our sin and where it leads us, it also encourages us as it reminds us of how much God loves us and cares for us, giving us His Son's (Jesus') life for our sins so we may live with His forgiveness and one day forever with Him in eternity. All of this comes from the *Truth* in His Word. Jesus also said the *Truth*, God's Word, 'sanctifies' His disciples, and we are also His disciples when we believe in this gift of God's Son. To 'sanctify' means to set apart, so Jesus was asking God to set us all apart from this world by the *truth* of His Word. How this happens is as we believe and read His Word, we begin to understand God, Who is *Truth*, and all that is in His heart and then we begin to obey what He reveals in His word to us. As we read and obey it, He sets us apart as His vessels here on this earth, and we become suitable for His use which was always His perfect plan for us since the moment we were created, which ends up being for our good. Many times we may struggle with His *Truth* (just as His disciples did) because our sinful nature fights against what we read and hear and doesn't like it. But when we humbly submit to His authority and trust in His *Truth*, we are able to live lives that are full of His glory, power, presence and purpose. So just as Jesus prayed for His disciples who were with Him everyday and actually hearing *TRUTH* (*hearing Him*), He is setting that example for us to do the same for ourselves and our loved ones to pray that we will read the *Truth*, hear the *Truth*, believe the *Truth*, trust the *Truth* and walk in the *Truth* everyday of our lives. Let us pray:

"Dear Heavenly Father, we humbly bow before Your throne in our hearts and praise You for being *Truth*! O Lord, may You sanctify me and...

(names of those you are praying for)

by the *Truth*; may we know Your word is *Truth*! Lord, we believe You desire to do this for us for it is in Your Word. May we recognize our need for You and humble our hearts before your mighty throne. May our hope be in You all day long. Thank-you for loving us with an everlasting love and may it all be for the glory of Your name. In Your loving Son's name, Jesus, we pray, Amen."