

Fifth Wednesday of Lent “The Truth Matters”  
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Jesus says “If you remain in my word, you will truly be my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” The concept of “truth” has been under attack for a number of years. I am probably going to get letters for saying this, but I think the most glaring example of this in recent years is if you are biologically a male, society says you can call yourself a female because that is your “truth” and the other way around of course. I remember having this conversation with someone once who had bought in to what our culture has to say about “truth” in this regard. I asked this person, if I were to tell you I was female, would you think that is true? This person stuck his guns and said, “Absolutely”. My next question was, “what if I told you I was a hundred year old woman?” This gave him pause, but he still stuck to his guns. “Yes, it would be your truth”. And so, my next question was “what if you told you I was a 100 year old Asian woman?” This guy finally got my point, which was, at some point...truth matters.

At some point, even in our culture, truth matters. And here is where real truth, objective truth can be really medicinal. Again, I am just taking this one example, there are thousands of others. There is not a single surgery or medication a person can take that can change a person’s chromosomes. There is no way to change XY chromosomes to XX or change XX chromosomes to XY. You are born with your gender. It is written in your DNA and there is nothing you can do to change that. This means that every surgery or medication out there that says it will change a person’s gender is an outright lie, scientifically speaking. Those surgeries or medications are simply “make up” and “make believe” to make someone pretend they are what they are objectively not. And so, what would be the best therapy for someone who wants this kind of so called procedure? In addition to a lot of love, and we need to love them, we really do, the best therapy in my mind is truth. The truth is God made you. The truth is God loves you. And if we can all embrace that truth then the truth will set us free. It will.

All kinds of things can cloud us of that truth of course, sin being one of them. However, society sometimes just doesn’t help when it comes to embracing objective truth. Another good example of this is how our leaders chose to share information about the coronavirus to us. They did it in drip, drip, drips. Oh, it is just a flu. Oh, it really is not just a flu. Oh, the social distancing will only take a couple weeks or so. Oh, I guess we have to all stay at home for at least a couple weeks. And then the politician says, what I really meant to say is another month, maybe two. I don’t know about you, but really wanted to write a few letters asking our politicians to simply tell us the truth. We do not want spin. We do not want make up or make believe. We simple want truth. And the truth is liberating because now we know what it is we are dealing with and we can prepare and plan accordingly.

My friends, we are approaching Holy Week. And as Christians, as we make this pilgrimage we are challenged to consider how important the truth is when it comes to living our faith. The truth matters. This is especially true as we prepare for Holy Week. After all, what is Holy Week about? Holy Week is about following Jesus who is the way, the truth and the life.