

GOSPEL TRUTHS FROM DR. BRUCE BICKEL

Compiled by Bob Busted from years of Friday morning Bible studies

1. In the beginning God.
2. God is sovereign, omnipotent and compassionate.
3. Deceit = doubt, distortion & denial.
4. God tests us so we can learn where we are at with him spiritually.
5. Faith never dulls feeling.

6. Justification is freedom from the penalty of sin.
7. Sanctification is freedom from the power of sin.
8. Glorification is freedom from the presence of sin.

9. The person of Christ = sinless perfection and the works of Christ = perfect obedience.
10. The church is a benevolent dictatorship, not a democracy.
11. Adultery is violation of relationships through pollution.
12. Redemption = rescue through the payment of a price.
13. Forsaken means no longer in the presence of God.
14. Hebrews would say the most important scripture is “So they will put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them” (Numbers 6:27).
15. Meekness is living according to the power of the Lord.
16. When we pray, the Son intercedes and takes it to the Father.
17. Confess, not profess.
18. Everything that happens to me is for His glory and my good.
19. Prayer in His name means doing so in the attributes, nature and character of Jesus.
20. If God is for us, who can be against us?
21. Don’t be an initiator, rather be an aggressive responder to what we see God doing.
22. Revival occurs inside the Church and spills outside to the world.
23. God cannot deny Himself and He can’t deny truth.
24. As soon as you confess, God forgives.
25. Be in the world but not of it, like a ship was meant to be in the water but not water in the ship.
26. We are to think right, act right, feel right. The world feels, then acts, then thinks.
27. Cover the wrong with love, forgive and move on.
28. We are double-dipped sinners, by birth and by choice.
29. Best verse describing Christmas (Isaiah 40:5) “And the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all mankind together will see it”.
30. Forgiveness is for our benefit.
31. A gentle answer defuses wrath.

32. The parting of the Red Sea was the demonstration of God’s power in the Old Testament; in the New Testament it is Christ’s resurrection from the dead and the empty tomb.

33. He calls us to Himself and we are the means by which God will reveal His holiness.
34. Ministry is who you are, where you are.
35. Christ saves me, not because I invited Him.
36. The ministry of the Holy Spirit is (1) scripture promises repent and belief (2) affirmation of the Holy Spirit with you (3) increased righteousness.
37. It is not circumstances that direct me, it is how I respond.
38. Blessed means happy in spite of circumstances.
39. We live by faith, not by sight.
40. If we become like the world, we lose our credibility. It seems we are now “Christianity Lite”, more taste, less filling.

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41. Being the light of the world means people aren't going to look at us, rather we illuminate things He wants us to see and be like.
42. Do not do things to seek honor from man.
43. Discern, don't condemn.
44. You study the truth to find out what is false.
45. Don't judge people by their motives, judge them by their fruit.
46. Prayer is the secret to behavior.
47. God always works through a remnant.
48. It's about the quality of the soil, not the seed; He will use us to seed, water or harvest.
49. There will be an irrevocable coming judgment.
50. Spurgeon said "I cease to count heads because truth is generally a minority in our evil age".
51. Forgiveness is an attitude of the heart.
52. Mercy is the willingness to absorb or bear someone else's pain.
53. Man cannot blot out his own sin and we can't change our hearts.
54. We should give away what God has given us without expecting anything in return.
55. But God!
56. If you know, you go.
57. Forgiveness is not something that can be doled out or calculated.
58. Grace is sufficient at the time of application.
59. The more you know of God, the more you will be dissatisfied with yourself.
60. The difference from a student and a disciple is obedience.
61. He who overvalues himself, undervalues his Savior.

62. Jesus' business plan was (1) He did it, they watched (2) He did it, they helped (3) They did it, he helped (4) They did it, he watched.

63. Jesus taught in parables, but not to his disciples; he gave them understanding.
64. The world's system is persecute, curse, hate, hurt and wound; the kingdom's system is joy, bless, love, forgive and pray.

65. Money doesn't corrupt, ownership does, and the hearts attitude toward it.

66. Indifference to the Gospel is rejection. Most people today want what God gives but they don't want what He is.

67. Stewardship is managing your love response to God.
68. Pardon comes when self-sufficiency ends.
69. It's not mercy when you think you deserve it.
70. A believer in Christ is never a victim.
71. Our citizenship is in heaven.
72. Don't fix your eyes on the calamity, rather repent and fix yourself.

73. A good work is from the inside out and the three tests are (1) is it done for the glory of God, (2) is it consistent with scripture, and (3) does it have the right motive; otherwise the best we can do is a good/bad work.

74. We have a famine of truth today in the church, we have squandered the resources God gave us.

75. By grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone, revealed in the scripture alone, for the glory of God alone.

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76. God gives us a trust fund.
77. It's better to be separated in truth than to be united in error.
78. Church work is great except for the people.
79. Character precedes conduct.
80. When Christ was on the cross, we were on his mind.
81. I'm a follower of Christ, not a Christian.
82. Christianity is defined by Christ, not by people.
83. Between God and us is mercy.
84. Comparison leads to despising.
85. Pride comes before the fall.
86. The key question is have I proclaimed the truth.
87. No sin is too great that God's mercy can't overtake it.
88. There is no works salvation.
89. It's not your conduct, it's the condition of your heart.
90. Everything has been prejudged.
91. Repent and believe! These are commands, not requests.
92. Love is obedience, not tolerance.
93. You "may" but no one "can" unless you are drawn by the Holy Spirit.
94. God if you don't go before me, I know that nothing of eternal consequence will happen.

95. Check your pride and direct your devotion.
96. A life of subjection brings revelation and vice versa.
97. His love for us is bounty, our love for Him is duty.
98. It is the job of the Holy Spirit to point us to the person and work of Christ.
99. You must be, and then you will become, but the world says you become and then you will be. Ask yourself what have I been given to do, then finish it.
100. Unity is something to preserve, we don't create it.

101. God ordained, the Son accomplished, the Holy Spirit applies.

102. If we have saving faith, we are a love gift from the Father to the Son.
103. Power is when we are unified in truth.
104. We all have the same purpose, to demonstrate the purpose of life.

105. When did you come to saving faith? Three times (1) preordained, before the creation of time (2) Christ on the cross (3) when the Holy Spirit applies in our life.

106. There are 332 prophecies that are fulfilled at the cross and resurrection!
107. Don't suppose or sit in judgment of others.
108. Don't worry about what you don't know, just be obedient to what you do know.
109. God describes us as the "oak of righteousness" if we have saving faith.

110. A revival is a sovereign visitation of God in all His Holiness that produces increased righteousness.

111. The message is not about what God gives, it should be about who God is.

112. The four stages of saving faith, coming from the Holy Spirit, are conviction, confession, conversion and comfort.

113. We are "M8's" - Mission Minded Members of a Movement Motivated by Mercy for Ministry in the Marketplace.

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- 114. It takes the same power to save a soul as it does to create the world.
- 115. God does not send us out until we are equipped.

- 116. Evidence of faith and salvation can be found in the love of the word, love of people, love of Christ, and love of prayer.

- 117. The Gospel = almighty love, mercy and righteousness.
- 118. When money is paramount, numbers become important, and the Gospel is diminished.
- 119. Because of God's sovereignty, faithfulness, and mercy, he treats us all the same when he calls us.
- 120. Rid ourselves of the sin of comparison.
- 121. Make sure you don't have an ungrateful spirit.
- 122. Testing + Christ = patience, patience + Christ = character, character + Christ = hope.
- 123. Christ was sinlessly perfect and perfectly obedient.

- 124. When we stand before our Lord, there will be judgment for the non-believer and rewards for the believer.

- 125. I'm not the victim, I'm the vessel God is using in the circumstance.

- 126. Justification is getting what we deserve, mercy is not getting all we deserve and grace is getting something we do not deserve.

- 127. WHJAD = what has Jesus already done.
- 128. There is no condemnation for those who are in Jesus Christ.
- 129. Jesus never motivates us to do something because of guilt.
- 130. The word Christian is only used three times in the Bible.
- 131. There is no condemnation and no separation because he is interceding for us.
- 132. The evidence of salvation (saving faith) is the prompt performance of those duties neglected. Every prayer is answered either through provision or protection.
- 133. Become God cognizant.
- 134. All our motivation in life should come from the mercies already received.
- 135. Worship is not an event, it is a lifestyle.
- 136. Don't build your life on preferences, build it on convictions.
- 137. Witnessing is not external, it's internal.

- 138. The chain of command = the Father ordains, the Son accomplishes, the Holy Spirit applies.

- 139. Comparison creates either pride or discouragement, both are bad, so don't do it.
- 140. We don't build the kingdom, we just reveal it.
- 141. The mission of the Church is purity through maturity.
- 142. It is in our weakness that we become powerful.
- 143. We were never designed to lead the Christian life.
- 144. Prayer demonstrates dependency and it is a mindset of dependency.
- 145. Trust the character and attributes of God.
- 146. The offended party is the one who must initiate reconciliation by removing the alienation.
- 147. The Gospel is glad tidings of good things.
- 148. Grace is the demonstration but mercy is the proof.
- 149. We are a spiritual Jew, not an ethnic Jew.
- 150. We have three callings; holy, high and heavenly.

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151. We are not the reason for our salvation, it is for his glorification.
152. Jesus has sealed us because He has chosen us, adopted us, accepted us, redeemed us, forgiven us, revealed God's will to us, and made us His inheritance.
153. Self-esteem is not the cure, it's the disease. There is a direct correlation between high self-esteem and low performance! Teach kids humility.
154. Redemption means rescued through the payment of a price.
155. Salvation is by grace, not works.
156. Pray for our spiritual understanding.
157. We must know before we can be.
158. We must be enlightened before we can be enabled.
159. The story of Spurgeon and the woman = Repent and believe! I can't! You must! (3X) then, God help me! You did!
160. Meekness is power under control. It means you have another option you choose not to exercise. Make your claim match your conduct.
161. Being humble, submissive, and obedient results in exultation.
162. Weakness is the common element in church leadership.
163. God works in us before he works through us.
164. We are totally inadequate but terribly excited.
165. Temptation = pride of life, lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes.
166. The Church today should teach Christ and Him crucified.
167. If you don't have it, you don't need it.
168. What am I going to do about what I just learned?
169. I'm a spiritual beggar.
170. Gratitude is the motivation for ministry.
171. Be being and keep fulfilled.
172. Guilt may be the motivation for asking for redemption.
173. The important thing is who you are, where you are.
174. There are times when I believe, but Lord help my unbelief.
175. The Old Testament says the soul that sins shall die. Many didn't because of God's mercy.
176. Passive love "He loves us", active love "We love Him".
177. Ethics = right value system + clear conscience + right motive.
178. Unpardonable sin is unbelief.
179. When you see God displayed, the response is worship.
180. Wisdom is not the accumulation of knowledge, it's the application of it.
181. The truth sets people free.
182. The moment we think we have merit, it is no longer mercy.
183. Why do I do what I do?
184. Grace is our currency, not money.
185. The more we give away mercy, the more we will receive.
186. Grace is what alters our relationships.
187. Everything in our life is determined by how we view God.
188. God is able to save, support, subdue, sanctify, supply, secure, and satisfy.
189. Christ is a better Savior than we are sinners.
190. There is new illumination but not new revelation. Christ is God's last word to the world!
191. God does not speak to us through dreams and visions.
192. There are only two spirits in this world, the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

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193. He didn't clear us, He redeemed us.
194. There is culpable guilt and penal guilt.
195. The understanding comes from the belief.
196. It is a good thing when our sin is exposed and we repent.
197. The highest level of faith is when there is no evidence; the lowest level is when you expect a miracle to believe.
198. Hermeneutics is the study of the methodological principles of Bible interpretation consisting of the historical background, the grammar, and the context.
199. We come from victory to victory.
200. Sin of unbelief is the greatest sin!
201. We are stewards not owners of our assets as it all comes from Him.
202. Consider Him intently.
203. The role of the elder is to shepherd the flock.
204. The more obedient, the more righteous, the more hope.
205. Goodness comes from people, not an event.
206. We get confirmation before we get affirmation.
207. The seven tests of "Are we in Christ?"
A. If we claim to have fellowship with Him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth.
B. If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
C. If we claim we have not sinned, we make Him out to be a liar and His word has no place in our lives.
D. The man who says I know Him, but does not do what He commands is a liar and the truth is not in him.
E. Whoever claims to live in Him must walk as Jesus did.
F. Anyone who claims to be in the light but hates his brother is still in the darkness.
G. If anyone says I love God, yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen.
208. Is a dead person dead or just very sick? The reformed position says that dead is dead!
209. God is absolutely sovereign and man is responsible.
210. Having been born of God is believing.
211. Life comes before belief.
212. Eternal life is not time, it is a person.
213. Satan takes a truth and modifies it so we are deceived.
214. The book of Revelation is the final glorious picture of what Christ is like.
215. Freedom is not circumstantial, it is internal.
216. The Church is to be light in the midst of darkness.
217. Blessed means to be happy in spite of circumstances.
218. Teach the whole counsel of God through the local church.
219. Satan wants to accuse us and deceive us and decrease our value.
220. Satan's great ploy is deception.
221. Do we believe in the God of Biblical revelation or the God of human imagination?
222. Faith is "Forsaking all, I trust Him!"
223. Christ was born to die.

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224. The 28 attributes of God are: existence (eternality), incomprehensibility, monotheistic, triple-natured (Trinity), spirit, omnipresent, invisible, unity, omniscient, wise, truth, independent, immutable, faithful, sovereign, omnipotent, love, good, kind/loving-kindness, mutual/compassionate, long-suffering, gracious, holiness, righteous/just, blessed, glorious, jealous and wrath.
225. Salvation is a means to an end (fellowship with God for eternity).
226. We have peace in the past, present and future---I know that all my sins have been forgiven, all things are happening for my good, and nothing will separate me from the love of God.
227. Grace is seeking the unmerited.
228. Regeneration precedes faith.
229. Do you have to be perfect to get to heaven? Yes! Can I be perfect? No! That's why we need a savior!
230. God never excuses sin; he redeems it.
231. BUT is the most important word in the New Testament because it shows us God's mercy (injustice).
232. The real definition of ministry is "giving away to someone else what God has given us".
233. When in need, His grace will be sufficient to allow me to be merciful.
234. Jealousy in the biblical sense means protectiveness.
235. Christianity is God revealing Himself.
236. If you ask why does God permit bad things then you must also ask why does God permit good things to happen to me?
237. Luke 2:52 is the only verse that describes what Jesus did between the ages of 12-30.
238. Every act of evil confirms the existence of God.
239. You can't have evil without goodness, but you can have goodness without evil.
240. Please understand what I'm not saying.
241. His holiness, sinfulness of man, person of Christ, the work of Christ, repentance, and faith. Spiritual maturity is more of Christ and less of me.
242. Faith is forsaking all, I trust Him.
243. If it's new it's not true, if it's true it's not new.
244. We don't/can't seek God/Christ, God does the seeking and we become the aggressive responders.
245. You study the Scriptures to get to know the one behind it.
246. Our purpose is to put God's life on display.
247. We are in the life changing business.
248. If its guilt motivated, it's not from the Lord; conversely, if you can do it with no recognition, no credit, and no reward, it's from the Lord.
249. Eastern religions can't deal with (1) creation (something from nothing), (2) transformation (sinful to sinless), and (3) translation (death to life).
250. We're not what we think we are but what we think, we are.
251. God's glory is put on display when truth is proclaimed, not by the people's response.
252. The church is to be light in the midst of darkness.

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253. In the first four books of the New Testament God is portrayed as king in Matthews – written to the Jews; servant in Mark – written to the Romans; man in Luke – written to the Greeks; and as God in John – written to all.
254. You don't study scriptures to find answers, you study scriptures to find God.
255. How much you know about how much you have been forgiven is an indicator of how much you love God.
256. Love is not defined spiritually as tolerant.
257. Revelation or information leads to incarnation or illumination which leads to incorporation or application.
258. Jesus is God and Jesus is man.
259. When you have the right view of God everything else falls in place.
260. Regeneration per Spurgeon.....man hates God, the Holy Spirit helps us love God.
261. Having been born of God is believing.
262. Prayer is an expression of participation.
263. The evidence of saving faith is altered conduct.
264. Purity through maturity.
265. When you pick up the scriptures you see the author behind them.
266. Regeneration is not a process or eradication, it is supernatural and a one time event.
267. Worship is a verb that means "kiss toward".
268. In the relationship of a woman and her husband, her enjoyment must become our joy.
269. Repentance is taking sides with God against ourselves.
270. The bridge of mercy takes us from despair and depression to an act of gratitude.
271. The Old Testament is grace concealed, the New Testament is grace revealed.
272. Do we love our sin more than we love Christ?
273. Word directed worship = read, preach, sing, and pray.
274. Live a life worthy of the Bible.
275. Gen. Robert E. Lee said "Never put someone in a leadership position that can't control themselves".
276. Live a life that beautifies the gospel of Christ.
277. Christ is a better savior than we are sinners.
278. Every true believer has had an internal circumcision.
279. God's reservations are as important as his revelations.
280. God is AWEful.
281. We will not have the right view of sin until we first have the right view of God.
282. We trivialize both hate and love.
283. Confidence is the result of humility, not experience.
284. Huper means to die as a substitute.
285. We must have a warrior mentality.
286. The basic theme of the book of Hebrews is 6:1 Therefore let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity.
287. Christ is God's last word to the world.
288. Grace is what alters our relationships.
289. Everything in our life is determined by how we view God.
290. Don't spend all your time looking for the secret things.

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291. Two things will be around forever, His word and the church (remnant).
292. If its guilt motivated it's not from the Lord; conversely if I can do it with no recognition, no credit, no reward, it's from the Lord.
293. God's glory is put on display when truth is proclaimed, not by the people's response.
294. Your primary formula for failure is trying to please everyone.
295. Life comes before belief or faith.
296. The first evidence of regeneration is belief.
297. Mercy is the ministry of inconvenience.
298. There is no such thing as free will.
299. Love is doing the right thing.
300. Our "family" legacy is forgiveness.
301. God's word is our Christian ethos.
302. The more obedient, the more righteousness, the more hope.
303. Godliness is worship rightly directed.
304. Intellectual (theological speculation) and senses (theatrical spectacle).
305. Good works is the evidence of salvation; it is not the cause of it.
306. All ministry starts in the pulpit.
307. Christianity is supernatural.
308. Expository preaching exposes the scripture for the growth of the flock.
309. Thoughts become your words, words become your actions, actions become your habits, habits become your character, and character becomes your destiny.
310. Scripture says equality is something you receive not something you achieve.
311. Other "isms" are different in these ways: they can't deal with creation out of nothing; they don't believe in transformation or sin to holiness; and they don't believe in translation or this life to eternity.
312. All scripture is sufficient for four things...it reveals the standard, reveals the error, reveals how to correct it, and reveals how to keep it from happening again.
313. There are times when I believe but Lord help my unbelief.
314. Be holy and give thanks...this should be the basis for our decision making.
315. The church should be elect, exemplary, expectant and enthusiastic.
316. Rejection of God is an act of cosmic treason.
317. Humility is seeing that which is perfect and realizing we can't achieve it.
318. Be thankful for what you don't know.
319. At best, man only deserves God's wrath.
320. Heaven is a prepared place for prepared people.
321. A believer is a person whose past is past.
322. You go to church to give a blessing not to get one.
323. We've been saved from the wrath of God because of his free grace and we've been saved from ourselves.
324. God never uses guilt as a motivation for us to do anything spiritual; Christ is the definition of spirituality.
325. A servant leader is the quiet quest for anonymity.

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326. Temperament and character are the natural inclinations you were born with; personality is an expression of your temperament.
327. Our role in this life is to slow down corruption and expose sin.
328. Revival is the sovereign visitation of God in all his power.
329. Grace is God's Resources At Christ's Expense.
330. Prophecy today is proclaiming truth in front of people; it is reiteration, not revelation.
331. The best description of a non-believer is hopelessness.
332. Stewardship is the dignity of managing someone else's property.
333. Church is the "called-out ones".
334. Miss Christ and you miss it all.
335. God is a God of order and He holds all things together.
336. Redemption is the major theme of the Bible.
337. Jesus is the manifestation and representation of God.
338. Joy depends on grace, happiness depends on happenings.
339. The process is knowledge, wisdom and understanding.
340. The incarnation did not make Jesus God.
341. Learning leads to living and living leads to loving.
342. The guards were chained to Paul and he converted them.
343. Maturity is less of me and more of Christ.
344. Temptation is pride of life, lust of the flesh, and lust of the eyes.
345. God works in us before He works through us.
346. Mercy pities and grace pardons.
347. Being humble, submissive and obedient results in exaltation.
348. Make your claim match your conduct.
349. Thanks be to our sovereign God who always, always, always leads in triumphant praise. Evangelism is not marketing.
350. Paul says "in Christ" 126 times.
351. Where does your mind go when you are not thinking about anything?
352. We're protected when we are faithful; it's our greatest protection.
353. We are trophies of God's grace.
354. Adoration is upward, affection is outward, grace is downward.
355. Life is the only remedy for death.
356. More knowledge = more faith = more love.
357. We are to bear fruit and become aggressive responders.
358. God is self-contained.
359. If you insist on having all the answers, you are suggesting you want to be God.
360. Christ still has a physical body and we are it.
361. 3 real evidences of saving faith.....increased righteousness, I know because I know, the desire to be obedient.
362. The greatest weapons of Satan are deception and accusation.
363. If you are in Christ and if Christ is in you then you believe and you DART - Depending upon Christ, Adhering to Christ, Relying upon Christ, Trusting upon Christ
364. The devils believe but they do not have saving faith, they have demonic faith.
365. The Church is referred to as remnant and persecution in both Old and New Testaments.
366. If we think we can exercise our own natural resources to accomplish what God has set for us to do, it is an offense to the cross.

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367. We didn't come to stay, we came to go. We didn't come to get, we came to give.
368. Good expository preaching is really plagiarism.
369. The sins of the spirit are more heinous than the sins of the flesh.
370. Faith never saved anybody, God saves you. Faith is the first evidence.
371. By their fruits you will know them.
372. When you miss the Word you miss the Son, and when you miss the Son you miss the truth. Ministry is who we are where we are.
373. Demonstrate the fact that God is holy.
374. Satan's work is doubt, distortion, denial and death.
375. God is righteous, he does the right thing.
376. Cleanse us of our unrighteousness so that we might to worthy vessels to sit at your feet.
377. Prayer demonstrates dependency.
378. Hope is the basis of boldness.
379. The mission of the church is to equip the saints to do the work of the ministry.
380. We need to be our own reward system.
381. All of life is preparation for future ministry.
382. Griping is not an option, we should have an attitude of gratitude.
383. The starting point is what is your relationship with the person and work of Christ?
384. God's work done God's way will not lack God's support.
385. Lack of funds is God's quality control measure.
386. Christ's work, not my work.
387. Someone else's experience does not become our obligation and vice versa.
388. Three words describe the church through the years...remnant, persecution and warfare.
389. You can't be career motivated and Christ motivated at the same time.
390. Any act of obedience on our part does not gain us merit.
391. You do the best you can and trust Christ with the rest.
392. Lord what are you doing in my life?
393. You don't want to find out God's will for you, you want to find God's will in you.
394. Our confidence is directly related to our humility.
395. Elders talk about the spiritual condition of the flock.
396. Four things that can hinder a preacher....money, pride, unbridled ambition, and women (temptation).
397. You can't love unless you hate.
398. The cross is God's way of defending His holiness.
399. When did we become a Christian? From God's perspective: Before the creation when He foreknew and predestined. From Jesus perspective: On the cross when He shed His blood for our salvation. From the Holy Spirit's perspective: When through the Gospel, and moved by the Holy Spirit, we repent and believe.
400. Foreknowledge = active delight. It does not mean to know in advance.
401. To live differently we must think differently.
402. Faith has no sight.
403. Be holy and give thanks.
404. What is my motivational calling?
405. There is no condemnation and no separation because of intercession.
406. Esteem is what you think about other people.
407. Foreknew = active divine benevolence (loved them beforehand).

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- 408. Be transformed by the renewing of your mind.
- 409. The purpose of reconciliation is to make us holy and blameless.
- 410. Total depravity is when man is dead, blind, lost and condemned.
- 411. Christ has bridged the gap between God's holiness and man's sinfulness.
- 412. Wickedness enslaves people, the truth sets them free.
- 413. Without the proper message there is no power.

- 414. The lesson from the Book of Titus...do not forget your past, function in your present, focus on the future.

- 415. Evaluate your own spiritual maturity by your hunger for the preached word.
- 416. The highest level of worship is the preaching and the listening.
- 417. Leaders are qualified by the Holy Spirit, not appointed by us.

- 418. Did I proclaim the truth, was I obedient, if so we will be successful...that is our reward, but don't look for a response.

- 419. It's all about Him and not about us. Recognize the authority of God.
- 420. Repentance is taking sides with God against yourself.

- 421. Acts 7:55-56 is the only reference to Christ standing, not seated, at the right hand of God.

- 422. The role of the manager is to provide, protect, and promote. Bruce described his department as nobody works after 5, nobody takes work home, nobody works on Saturday and no one gossips.

- 423. If you believe, you have a sense of your own guilt and sinfulness, you have actual hatefulness of sin, you possess an understanding of God's mercy in your life, and you have a persistent endeavor to lead a holy life.

- 424. Let the word of God dwell in you richly.
- 425. Great leadership is asking the right questions.
- 426. It is the Holy Spirit that pursues us.
- 427. Love creates love, His love for us is bounty, our love for Him is duty.
- 428. Christianity is exclusive and compassionate.
- 429. He wants to put His life on display through us.
- 430. God is very jealous of His glory, His name and his people (sheep).
- 431. Security is the feeling of unconditional love.
- 432. Our obligation is to obey His revealed will, not His secret will.
- 433. Maturity is more of Him and less of me.
- 434. Truth without grace is no truth at all.

- 435. 17 words or concepts of salvation are repentance, faith, substitution, reconciliation, propitiation, remission, regeneration, redemption, imputation, adoption, supplication, justification, sanctification, glorification, election, foreknowledge, and predestination.

- 436. Salvation is always by innocent blood, through a person, by grace, and through faith.
- 437. Whatever I do well, I will do it better when I do it with someone else.
- 438. Two things God can't do - God can't deny himself and He can't deny truth.
- 439. Between God and us is mercy.
- 440. Many churches today are for entertainment, comfort, and thus the numbers.
- 441. There is no judgment left to be done, the Scriptures have already done that.

GOSPEL TRUTHS FROM DR. BRUCE BICKEL

442. The responsibility of the parents is to provide the needs of their children, not their wants or desires.
443. Wisdom is a process where God applies all His knowledge and attributes to His every act so the end result will always be perfect to accomplish His goal.
444. We are the means to put His life on display.
445. We need to get off being self centered and get on with being “other” centered.
446. What draws us to people is gratitude, not greed.
447. First and last time Jesus met with his disciples it was on a mountain.
448. When you don’t know what to say, ask, seek, and knock for wisdom and discernment.
449. A leadership lesson – The less important I am, the greater I become.
450. Everything that happens is for God’s glory and our good.
451. Our default system is human effort and that’s wrong.
452. When you throw dirt, you lose ground.
453. A primary role is to be the proclaimer of the next coming of Jesus Christ.
454. Christ has to be your Savior first before He can be your teacher.
455. Don’t judge for there is nothing to judge; Scriptures have already prejudged everything.
456. If you want to know the condition of your heart, examine what comes out of your mouth and what you do with your money.
457. Our rallying cry is “Thy Kingdom Come”.
458. Motive is critical as a follower of Christ.
459. Did my confession of faith in Christ cost me anything?
460. The greatest deception is self deception.
461. Asking for wisdom and discernment has nothing to do with wealth or health.
462. Worry is sinful.
463. Prayer is an act of obedience. It doesn’t change a thing, except it changes me.
464. I can’t be your Holy Spirit.
465. We either worship God or we worship ourselves.
466. We live in an “est” environment i.e., best, biggest, etc.
467. Job is the oldest book in all of Scripture, written even before Genesis.
468. Forgiveness is one thing evil cannot stand.
469. Prayer is the preparation for the right response when it comes.
470. Grace is applicable at the point of need, not contemplation.
471. A right attitude about wealth is a sign of your spiritual maturity.
472. Joy begins when the journey begins; happiness extends beyond life.
473. The Greeks said Wisdom is the accumulation of knowledge. The Hebrews said Wisdom is the application of knowledge.
474. Taking the name of the Lord in vain is a thought unworthy of God.
475. Salvation is a conversion, not a convenience.
476. The person of Christ and the work of Christ is how God bridges the gap between His holiness and the sinfulness of man.