



October 28, 2024

Does Truth Matter?

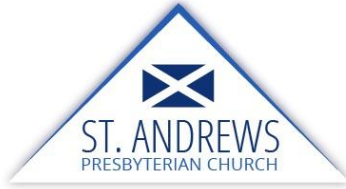
Or to put it another way, can faith matter if truth doesn't? That is the question Martin Luther put to the Church leaders over 500 years ago. That is the question we will all be voting on next week. Martin Luther put forth the proposition that every person has the right to his or her beliefs and to question the leaders of the church or nation about theirs. Historians point to the direct connection between that proposition and the establishment of Democracy: the right of free speech and right to choose your leaders; the rule of law and the rule of Scripture, not the rule of king or pope.

Truth always takes a beating during an election cycle. That's why we must be very diligent in seeking the truth and having our Christian values to judge it. As a member of Rotary International, I am encouraged to use the "4-way Test" to evaluate any idea or proposition. These are 4 questions to ask of it, the first of which is: "Is it the truth?" We have become soft on "truth." We are told by the media that we should no longer speak of "false witness" as "lies," but rather as "disinformation." We are told that political leaders should not "spread disinformation" or "share disinformation". Doesn't that sound nice? Don't we want to teach our children to "share?" Whatever happened to "Honest Abe?" Was it George Washington who cut down the cherry tree and then said: "I cannot share disinformation?"

Truth matters because honesty and integrity matter. Truth matters because lies hurt and injure people. How many people died of Covid 19 because they were told the lie that vaccinations were bad? Truth matters because it is the basis of trust and freedom. Even Jesus said it: "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." (John 8: 31-32) Truth matters.

~Written by Ned Edwards

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