

TRUTH

*With time, I've come to see
it's who I want to be
that shuts or opens doors
to truths, that could change me.*

Truth is the knowledge of things as they are, as they were, and as they are to come. (Doctrine & Covenants 93:24) Truth embodies eternal transcendent laws that govern all existence.

A fundamental, even defining truth, is that there is opposition in all things. Otherwise nothing exists, including us. (2 Nephi 2:11)

Abiding by or not living transcendent laws determines the degree of light and truth one possesses and, therefore, the degree of freedom and purpose and power and joy one can experience both temporally and eternally. But how do we find truth? How do we know what is true?

Fundamental to finding truth is to not eliminate from consideration its potential sources. For example, it is important that we understand that in the time-driven mortal context we are in, our flawed senses and brain are not capable of discerning all truth and might even present a distorted view of what exists. In addition, limiting our truth-seeking to empirical tests eliminates the possibility of discovering truths that can't be discerned by restrictive empirical means.

Acknowledging that sources of truth are not limited to the world in which we live and the universe that contains it opens the way to discover vital truths.

Furthermore, accepting as possible that we humans are, in fact, eternal beings with no beginning and no ending and that there are important purposes pertaining to our eternity can help us see beyond the here and now.

Of course, we should not eliminate using our physical senses and brain and available practical evidences in our search for truth. But in recognizing that there are limits to these sources we should also look to find truth wherever it is and however it can be obtained.

What determines the degree to which we can find truth.

How much desire and effort will I put forth to find it?

How committed am I to live the truth that I find? In other words, am I willing to not only change my perception of what is true, but also will I change the way I live my life according to the truth I find?

There is a critical personal attribute that must exist to find all truth.

Humility.

To recognize our innate weakness and incapacity is vital to receiving the outside help necessary for us to expand in light and truth. (Ether 12:27)

Armed with meekness we can find truth in the lives of those whose personal attributes we admire and desire to have. The very act of us doing what they do carries with it a powerful, sure witness that they are living true and elevating transcendent laws, if in fact that is what it is.

Jesus Christ said, *“Anyone who chooses to do the will of God (that is, live truth) will find out whether my teaching comes from God (that it is truth) or whether I speak on my own.”* (John 7:17 NIV) We find what is true by living it.

And, with humility, our eyes and ears and hearts are open to receive extra-terrestrial help and guidance that is direct and personal and real. Jesus Christ has promised that we can have the *comforter* or the *Holy Spirit* abide with us who will “teach us all things,” and “bring all (truths) to remembrance” which He has taught. (See John 14:26)

Our humility in turn will lead us to verify by our own experiences the words of Moroni in the Book of Mormon:

“If ye shall ask (God) with a sincere heart, with real intent, having faith in Christ, he will manifest (truth) unto you by the power of the Holy Ghost. And by ...the Holy Ghost ye may know the truth of all things. ... For (god) worketh ... according to the faith of the children of men.” (Moroni 10:4-7)

There are literally millions of people on the earth today that are living witnesses of the existence of the Holy Ghost and by following Moroni’s admonition one can experience for themselves this infinite source of truth.

And the truth we can receive by that means is virtually unlimited.

“I, the Lord, am merciful and gracious unto those who (love) me.... And to them will I reveal all mysteries, ...Yea, even the wonders of eternity shall they know. ...And their wisdom shall be great,

and their understanding reach to heaven.... For by my Spirit will I enlighten them, and... make known unto them...those things which eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor yet entered into the heart of man.” (See Doctrine and Covenants 76:7-10)

The extent to which we can find and know truth is determined by the law that governs truth. Alma, in the Book of Mormon powerfully delineates that law:

“It is given unto many to know the mysteries of God; nevertheless they are laid under a strict command that they shall not impart only according to the portion of his word which he doth grant unto the children of men, according to the heed and diligence which they give unto him. ...He that will harden his heart, the same receiveth the lesser portion of the word; and he that will not harden his heart, to him is given the greater portion of the word, until it is given unto him to know the mysteries of God until he know them in full.” (Alma 12:9-10)

Truth is to know who we are and what we are all about. The way to access all truth is to seek it and live it. Then truth will make us free forever. (See 2 Nephi 2:16, 26; John 8:32)