

How should you respond to false doctrine?

The thirteen lessons in this quarter's study, *Shattering the Deception of Cults and False Religions*, offer a background on some of today's most popular religions. This course will prepare you to Biblically refute these deceptions.



The Real Faith in Life Devotional Bible Study is designed to help you dig into God's Word. Each lesson offers devotions for Monday through Saturday, along with an

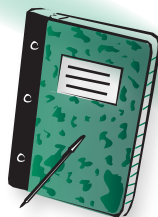
In-Class worksheet to be completed during your group study.

In order for you to gain the most out of your devotional time, use the following tools along with your student book.



Bible study tools: In order for you to dig into God's Word, consider using a Bible dictionary and a concordance.

If you are not familiar with these helpful guides, ask your pastor or youth leader for a recommendation.



Journal: Purchase a journal or notebook to record your personal thoughts and prayers. Bring your journal and student book to class each week so that you can take notes during the

lesson or write any special insights you gain from a particular activity. You may also use the journal for sermon notes or for prayer requests.

Or visit an online Bible tools Web site, such as www.blueletterbible.org.

This site offers commentaries, maps, and many other tools to help you in your Bible study. (This recommendation does not constitute a blanket endorsement by RBP.)

The Face behind the Façade

Have you ever been to a masquerade party where each person's identity is hidden behind a mask? While the deception at masquerade parties is simple social entertainment, God's Word warns of spiritual deceivers who seek to destroy the cause of Christ.

In this lesson, you will learn to recognize the master deceiver and the many masks he wears.

Memory Verses



"For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light" (2 Corinthians 11:13, 14).

Monday

Read this week's memory verses, 2 Corinthians 11:13 and 14. Then answer the following questions.

1. How are false apostles described in verse 13?



These deceitful workers" were actually working their way into the church. Their main goal was to deceive others and turn them away from the truth of God's Word.

2. Who is the leader of the false apostles (v. 14)?

3. How is he described?

4. Why is this description so fitting?



Think about the times you have been tempted. Has Satan ever made a certain sin seem pleasurable?

If you have not done so, talk to God about temptation you are facing now. Ask for His help to recognize Satan as the deceiver that he is.



Memory Verse Activity: Place this week's memory verses by the light in your room. Each time you turn on the light, read through the verses and ask God to help you recognize Satan's façade.

Tuesday

Over the next few days you will be studying more terms or phrases that the Bible uses to describe Satan or false teachers.

1. Read Matthew 7:21–23. What phrase describes false teachers (v. 23)?

2. Now, look back at verse 22. According to this verse what did those who work iniquity say when they stood before the Lord?

3. What did God tell them?



Can you imagine hearing those words from Christ?

These verses relay the seriousness of making sure we are following the true Word of God and not falling prey to the heresies of false teachers!

Examine your life today. Have you been tempted to turn from the truth of the Word of God in a certain area? Remember: If you are willing to compromise God's truth in small areas, you may be tempted to one day compromise an important truth from His Word!

Wednesday

Read Matthew 7:15 and Acts 20:28 and 29 and answer the following questions.

1. What animal do Matthew and Paul use to describe believers in these verses?
2. Why do you think God's Word often describes believers in this way?
3. How are false prophets and teachers described in these passages?
4. Why is this description such a vivid picture of the dangers of false teachers?



How do you view false teachers who completely go against the teachings of God's Word? Do you recognize them for the dangerous enemies that they are? Are you prepared to stand up for the truth of God's Word when you face these enemies?

Thursday

Read Galatians 1:8 and 9 and answer the following questions.

1. What phrase is used to describe a false teacher in these verses? (Hint: look at the second phrase in verse 8.)
2. Why would false teachers hide under the deception as someone sent from Heaven or as someone who holds a truth sent "directly from Heaven"?
3. According to the apostle Paul, what is the ONLY gospel that is true?
4. What will happen to the person who preaches any other gospel?



*Paul's warning to false teachers and prophets is very clear.
The same warning extends to those who promote false
teachings today.*

Friday

1. If you were to take a true-false test next Monday, what would be the best way to get a good grade on that test?



In order to recognize the deception in true-false questions, you have to know and understand the truth! The same holds true for God's Word.

2. Read Acts 20:32. To what does Paul commend believers?

3. What is God's Word able to do, according to this verse?

4. Read Hebrews 4:12 and record below the descriptions of the Word of God.

5. Now, beside each description, record one way in which that description of Scripture can benefit you.

Read 2 Timothy 3:13–15.

1. What do you know about Timothy? (Hint: Skim over 1 Timothy 1 and 2 Timothy 1.)

2. What warning did Paul give to Timothy in verse 13?

3. What did Paul encourage Timothy to do (v. 14)?

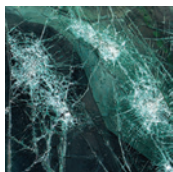


Timothy was able to follow Paul's counsel because he knew the truth of God's Word!

4. Read 2 Timothy 3:17. How can knowing and applying God's Word benefit you?

5. Take a minute to reflect on this week's devotions. Do you know enough of the truth of God's Word to recognize the false teachers and false prophets in the world around you?

6. What are you doing to stand up for the truth that is found in the Word of God?



I am shattering religious deception when I rely on God's Word to guard my heart against Satan's deception.



Journal Notes

My Best Defense

God, I know . . .

True
Religion

God, as I study
about different cults and false
religions, I know that I must . . .

Continue
in
Scripture