

ALL SLIDES ARE MADE  
AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE.

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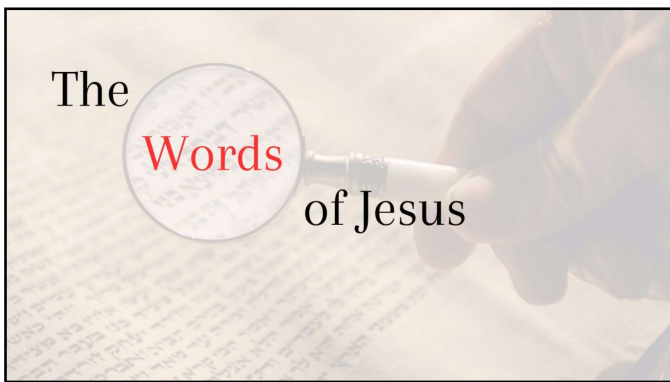
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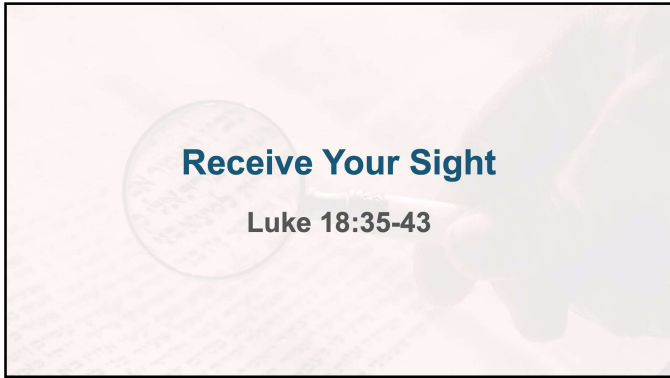
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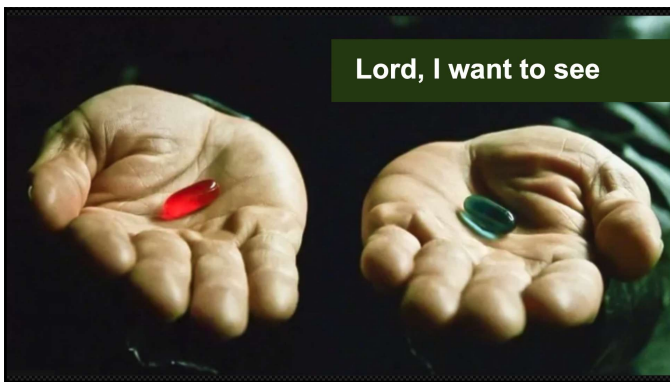
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**We are all (figuratively) blind in one way or another.**

- The (figurative) blindness we possess through no fault of our own is called **ignorance**.
- The (figurative) blindness we create through denial of information is called **deception**.

Two Types of Deceptive People

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<sup>35</sup> Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"

<sup>36</sup> "Who is he, sir?" the man asked. "Tell me so that I may believe in him."

John 9:35-41 (NIV)

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<sup>37</sup> Jesus said, "You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you."

<sup>38</sup> Then the man said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him.

<sup>39</sup> Jesus said, "**For judgment** I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind."

John 9:35-41 (NIV)

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**40** Some Pharisees who were with him heard him say this and asked, "What? Are we blind too?"

**41** Jesus said, "If you were blind, you would not be guilty of sin; but now that you claim you can see, your guilt remains."

John 9:35-41 (NIV)

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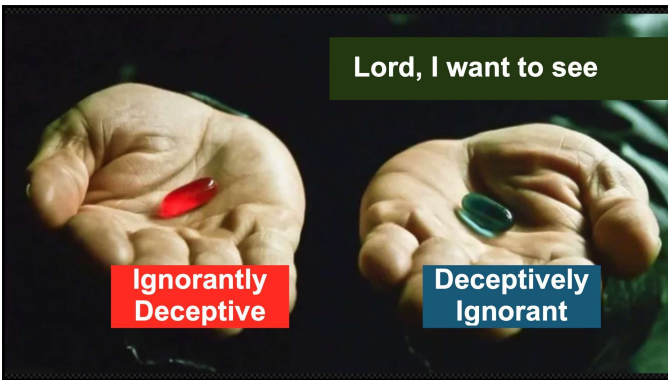
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**COMMON FORMS OF SELF-DECEPTION**

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**1. Doing what is right when its convenient still means I'm righteous (Luke 18:1-8)**

**Reflection Question(s):**

**Am I just?  
Do I do what is right, or behave like Christ, as long as it is convenient or comfortable?**

Types of Self-Deception

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**2. Arrogant Repentance — Holiness based on human comparison (Luke 18:9-14)**

**Reflection Question(s):**

**Do I primarily look at other's failures or my own?**

Types of Self-Deception

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**3. Some people have more value than others (Luke 18:15-17)**

**Reflection Question(s):**

**Do I see value in everyone?**

Types of Self-Deception

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**4. Blind to the hidden agenda or wickedness in our own hearts (Luke 18:18-30)**

**Reflection Question(s):**

**Am I honest or even consciously aware when I am operating in my own agenda?**

Types of Self-Deception

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**5. Followers of Jesus don't really get Jesus (Luke 18:31-34)**

**Reflection Question(s):**

**Am I really open to God's plan for my life?**

Types of Self-Deception

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**PREVENTING SELF-DECEPTION**

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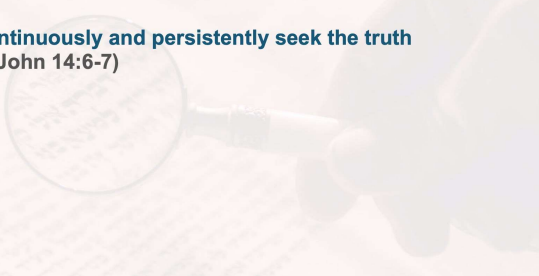
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**3 Ways to Prevent Self-Deception**

**1. Continuously and persistently seek the truth**  
(John 14:6-7)



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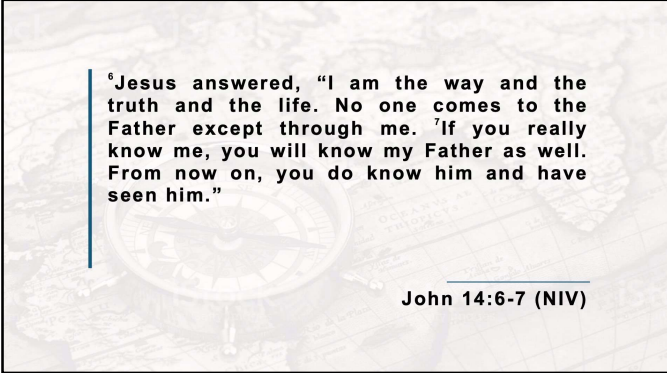
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**‘Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ‘If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.”**

**John 14:6-7 (NIV)**



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**VIDEO of Baby seeing clearly for the first time**



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**3 Ways to Prevent Self-Deception**

- 1. Continuously and persistently seek the truth (John 14:6-7)**
- 2. Understand your heart (Jeremiah 17:9)**

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**<sup>9</sup>The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?**

**Jeremiah 17:9 (NIV)**

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**3 Ways to Prevent Self-Deception**

- 1. Continuously and persistently seek the truth**  
(John 14:6-7)
- 2. Understand your heart** (Jeremiah 17:9)
- 3. Rely on Christ** (John 145:4-5)

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**4**Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

**5**"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

John 15:4-5 (NIV)

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**ACTION ITEM**

- 1) In the next 24-48 hours, ask God to reveal any self-deception in your heart and life.**
- 2) Repent and commit one day a week to a full consecration and fast with prayer.**

*\*Check with medical provider before beginning any fast.*

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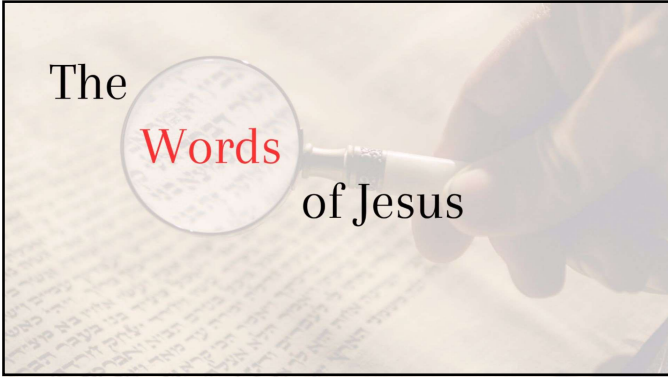
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