

# Living Word Fellowship Church

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Bible Study

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## **Keep it Real; Guard the Truth and Guard Your Life**

*“At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people.” (Matthew 24:10-11; NIV)*

### **A. Who is a False Teacher?:**

1. A person who persists in [false doctrine](#) (anything that violates the Word of God; 1 Timothy 4:1-2).
2. A person who says what tickling ears what to hear (2 Timothy 4:3-4).
3. Those who deny that Jesus is the Christ and [has the nature of God](#) (1 John 4:2-3).
4. 2 Peter 2:1-3 describes false teachers as those who:
  - a) ‘Secretly introduce destructive heresies.’ Destructive heresies are anything that violates the Word of God.
  - b) ‘Deny Christ has the nature of God’
  - c) They will be sensual – dress in very attractive ways. They may also be immoral.

- d) [They will be greedy.](#)
  - e) They will [exploit people](#) with false words.
5. False teachers will [not care for the sheep](#); their concern will be to clothe themselves in fine clothes and 'fatten themselves.' (Ezekiel 34:1-10).
  6. Christians are not allowed to welcome them [into their homes](#) (2 John 8-11).
  7. When a person tells [more stories than actually explains the Word of God](#), they make the Word of God void (1 Corinthians 1:17).
  8. Preachers will function like they are truly of Christ (2 Corinthians 11:13-15; cleverly introducing false doctrines 2 Peter 2:1). They would claim to be:
    - a) Apostles, 'disguising themselves as apostles of Christ' (1 Corinthians 9:1-2; 2 Corinthians 12:12).
    - b) [False signs and wonders](#) (2 Thessalonians 2:9).
    - c) Signs and wonders did follow the true apostles (Acts 4:29-31; 5:12; 14:3; Hebrews 2:4), but after they died out, the focus became James 5:16.

**B. We Must be Quick to Recognize and Accept them for Who God Says they are (1 John 2:18-22):**

1. Last hour – many false teachers would appear (2 Thess. 2:3-4), truculence is numerous, and more and more crises that keep escalating (Mt. 25:1-13; John 3:1-3). [A sense of urgency from increased difficulties](#) drives people to desire whatever gives them hope.
2. Antichrist:

- a) [Opposed to Christ](#).
  - b) [Hostile to His Word](#).
  - c) [Hate worship](#).
  - d) Resent anyone who promotes Christ.
  - e) They are among us and sometimes they come to church (Acts 20:29; Matthew 7:17-20). Don't look at the size of the church. Look at the [knowledge base](#) of the members, [the pastors life](#) (Hebrews 13:7), and the effectiveness of the ministry [in changing lives](#) because only God can transform a person (Matthew 19:16-17; Romans 7:18).
3. If these false teachers were committed to sound teaching, they have sought to be open to whatever the scriptures are teaching (1:1-4; 4:6; they share the divine nature 1 Peter 1:4).
4. When a [teacher rejects sound doctrine](#), it exposes who they really are (Mt. 7:15-22).

### **C. Trust the Anointing this Keeps Everything Truly Real (1 John 2:20-22):**

1. Have – The [anointing](#) is something a believer possesses on a continual and permanent basis (Ephesians 1:13; James 4:5). The Holy Spirit has been poured into our lives at the point of salvation (Ephesians 1:3-4; Titus 3:4-8). He is the Spirit of truth that lives permanently in us (John 14:16-17).
2. You all know – This is compared to Gnosticism; [guides us to truth](#) (John 14:16, 26; 16:13); [exposes the word of God](#) (1 Cor. 22:10-15). The Holy can cause us to have a consecrated devoted life to God (John 16:9-11; Romans 8:5-9; 12-17). Christos – this is why we can be like Him (Colossians 3:1-4).

3. It is written – Because it comes from the Old Testament (2 Tim. 3:14-16). This means [it is engraved](#), carved out (like it was for Moses and the Ten Commandments), and legislated.
4. You know – The anointing leads to a state of knowing (perf. Act.); [full understanding and experience of God's influence](#) on our lives (Hebrews 6:4-5).
5. No lie – The nature of falsehood (John 8:44). [Truth is pure](#).
6. The liar – A person who refuses to accept the deity of Christ in His humanity and His vicarious death; this person denies the Father (1 John 2:23).

### **Conclusion**

The best way to protect against false doctrine is to live in the truth. When we live in the truth, we grow spiritually. As we grow spiritually, the Spirit grows in us so that we live more in the Spirit and less in the flesh. Because the Holy Spirit is the truth (the very nature of His being, like water is wet), the more He influences, the more we lose our appetite for any falsehood. If we decide to believe any falsehood, the conviction, and influence of the Holy Spirit stops us and drives us back to the true meaning of God's Word. This must be our passion because the segway to experiencing what Christ came to provide (life and life abundantly; John 10:10) is living and experiencing the truth. *"I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me."* (John 14:6; NASU) This is the only way we can become like Christ is to have a deep commitment to the truth.