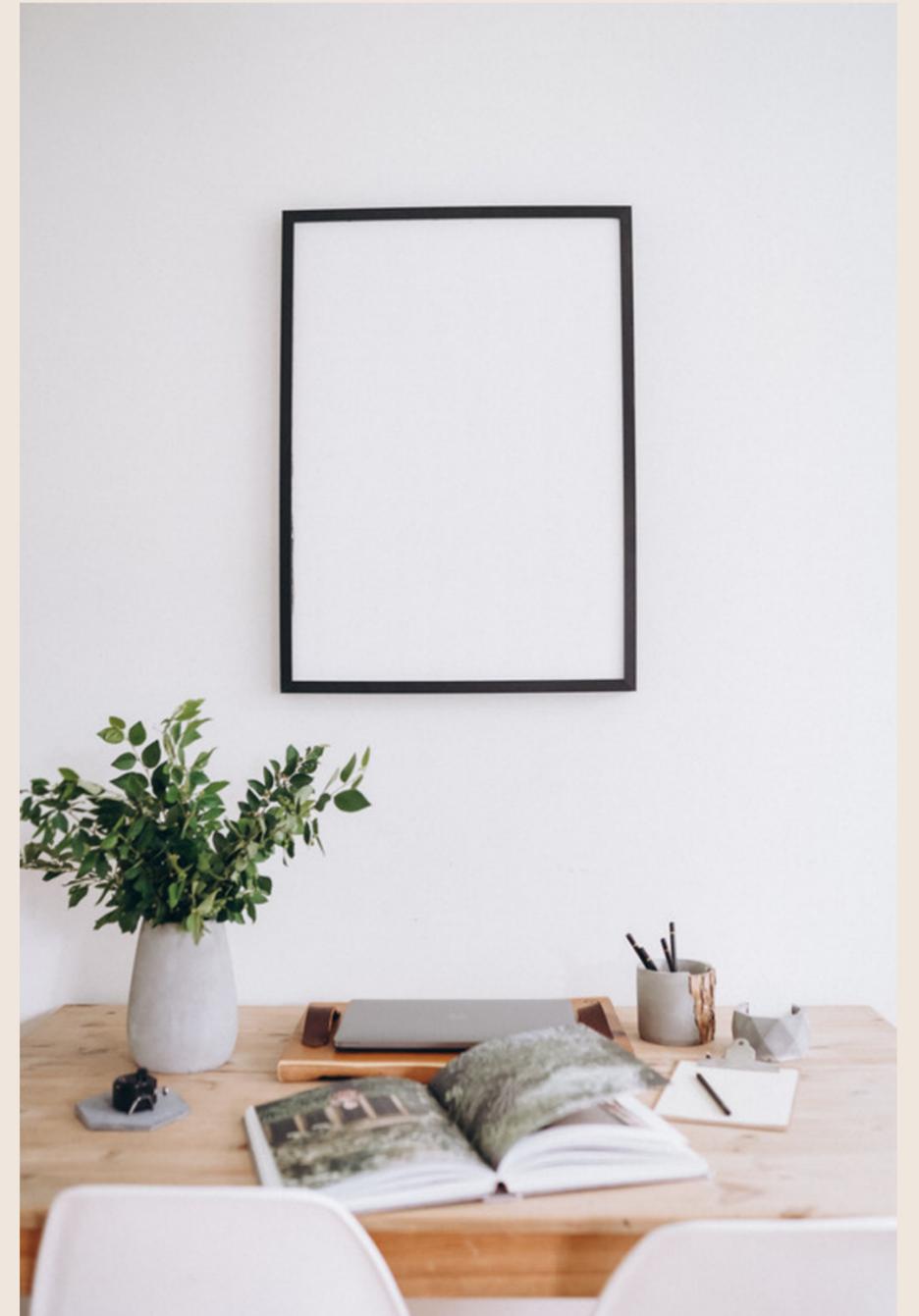




LESSON TITLE:  
WHY SPEAKING THE  
TRUTH IN LOVE MATTERS

LIFE IN THE WORD  
SERIES:  
THE BALANCE OF  
GRACE AND TRUTH



LESSON ELEVEN:  
WHY SPEAKING THE  
TRUTH IN LOVE  
MATTERS



John 1:14, And the Word became  
flesh and dwelt among us, and we  
beheld His glory, the glory as of the  
only begotten of the Father, full of  
grace and truth.

pany Profile

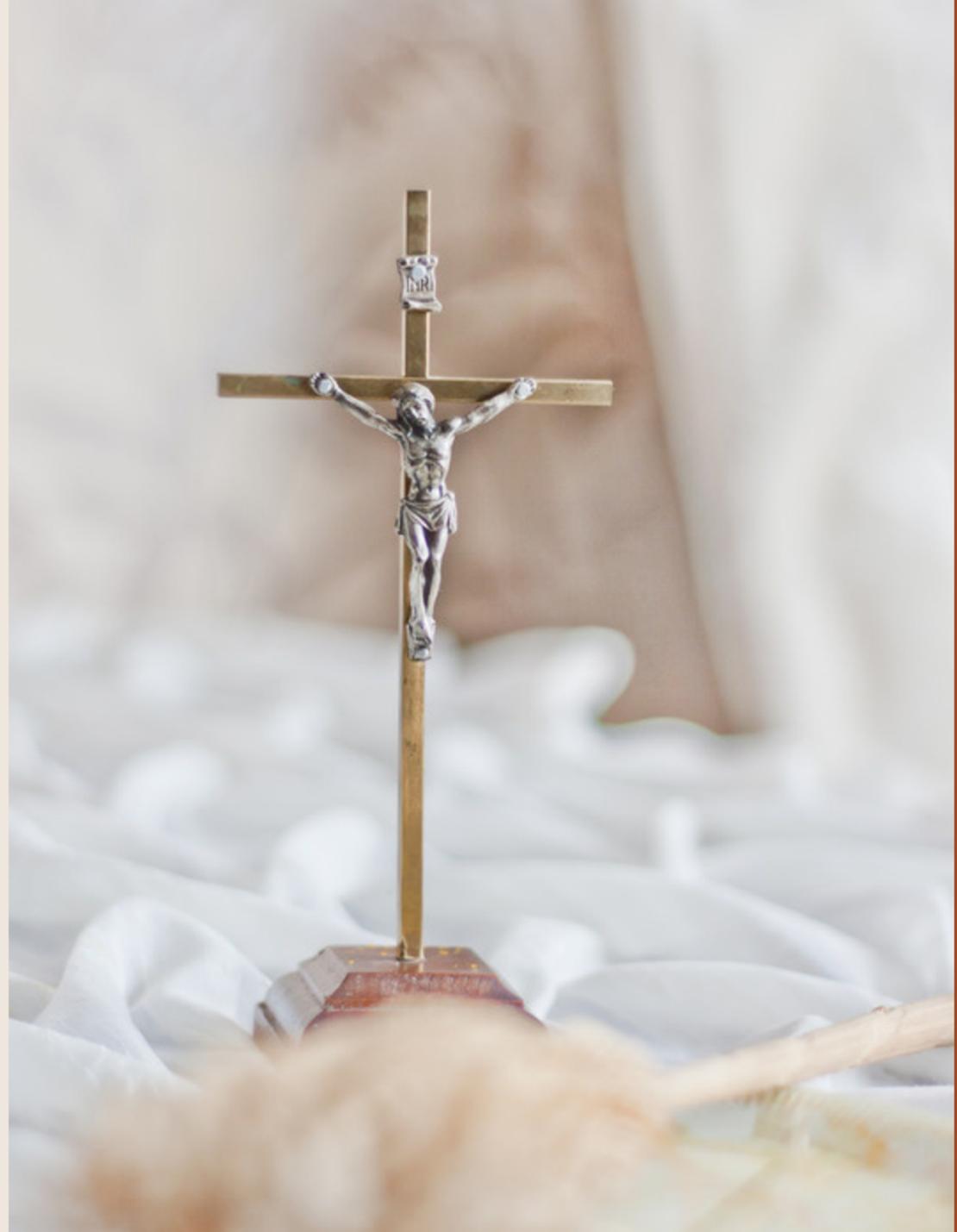
Ephesians 4:15, Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of His body, the church.

Instead, as we lovingly speak the truth, we will grow up completely in our relationship to Christ, who is the head.

(GWT)

# **Seven Observations about Truth and Grace:**

**1. Speaking the  
Truth in Love is a  
Command to the  
Body of Christ.**



**2. Truth without  
Love can Push  
People Away.**



**Colossians 4:6, Let your speech be  
always with grace, seasoned with salt,  
that ye may know how ye ought to  
answer each one.**

**“Everything you say should be kind  
and well thought out so that you know  
how to answer everyone.”**

**3. Grace and Truth  
must be Evident in  
our Words and  
Attitudes.**

The word "grace" is spelled out in a playful, rounded font. The letters are primarily yellow, with the 'g' and 'r' having a gradient to orange. The letters are placed on a textured, brown fabric-like background. The 'g' is the largest, followed by 'r', 'a', 'c', and 'e' in descending order of size.

**Reference Scripture**  
**Galatians 6:1-3**

**Galatians 6:1-3, Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently. But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted. Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. If anyone thinks they are something when they are not, they deceive themselves.**

**4. Speaking the  
Truth in Love Sets  
People Free.**



**5. Sin & Pride  
blinds us from  
seeing the Truth**

**Psalm 19:12, How can I know  
all the sins lurking in my  
heart? Cleanse me from  
these hidden faults**

**“The most common blind spot is believing others have them, but you don’t.”**

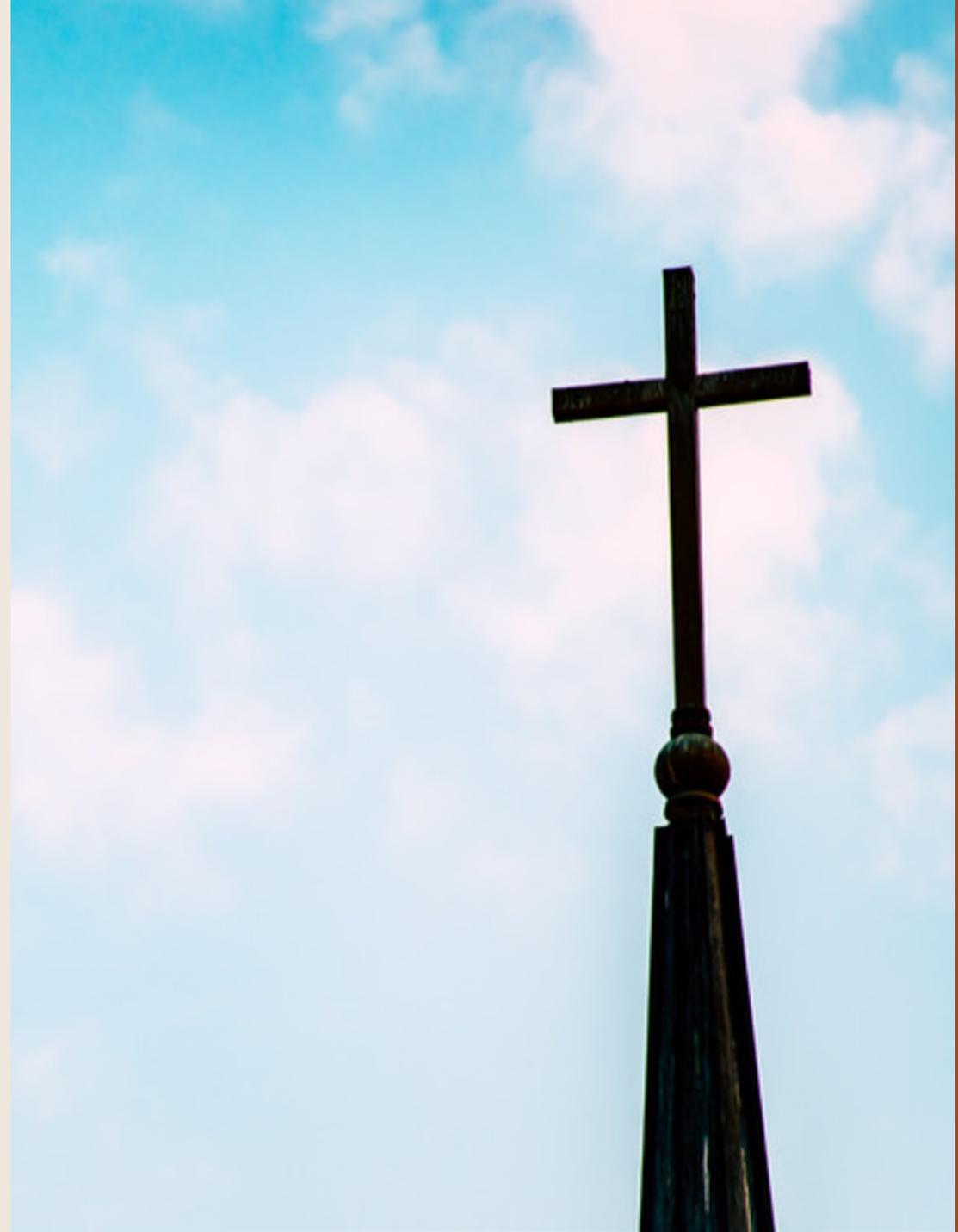
**6. Speaking the  
Truth in Love Leads  
to Spiritual  
Growth.**



**Ezekiel 33:6, But if the watchman sees the enemy coming and doesn't sound the alarm to warn the people, he is responsible for their captivity. They will die in their sins, but I will hold the watchman responsible for their deaths.**

**Proverbs 16:24, Pleasant words are a  
honeycomb, sweet to the soul and  
healing to the bones.**

**7. Truth-Telling  
Strengthens the  
Church  
Community.**



**Colossians 3:16,"Let the message of  
Christ dwell among you richly as you  
teach and admonish one another with  
all wisdom..."**

**Admonish means to instruct someone about a specific area in that person's life that doesn't line up with God's Word, the truth.**

# **Three Practical Steps to Speak the Truth in Love:**

**1. SPEAK  
FROM THE  
RIGHT SPIRIT.**



**Philippians 2:3, Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit [through factional motives, or strife], but with [an attitude of] humility [being neither arrogant nor self-righteous], regard others as more important than yourselves.**

# 2. SPEAK FROM A HEAVY HEART.



**2 Corinthians 2:4, "I wrote that letter in great anguish, with a troubled heart and many tears. I didn't want to grieve you, but I wanted to let you know how much love I have for you"**

# 3. SPEAK AND LISTEN



**“A smart person knows what to say. A wise person knows whether or not to say it.”**

**“You can tell the hard truth, but we don’t have to say it in a harsh way.”**

## **Follow Up Chat Questions:**

- 1. Have you ever avoided a difficult conversation because you don't like conflict?**
- 2. Why are we commanded to speak the truth in love?**
- 3. It's possible to be bound to things and not even recognize you're a prisoner. Explain.**
- 4. Why is it important for Christians to look out for each other?**
- 5. What is the definition for the word "admonish"?**
- 6. List the three practical steps to speak the Truth in Love. Explain.**
- 7. In what way was this series helpful to your Christian walk?**