

Earl had heard many stories about his absentee father Carl over the years. As a boy, Earl had resented his father for leaving him without even saying good-bye. Earl's mother had long since remarried but still had nothing but negative things to say about her former husband.

Many people had told Earl things about his father, some were good things but some were not. Mainly what he heard was a lot of conflicting stories about his dad. Old Ms. Morgan spoke about how Carl would do odd jobs for her around the house, rake her leaves and such. Earl's Aunt Ruby, however, only ever talked about how Carl would loaf around the house, not lifting a finger to help Earl's mother with their new baby. Earl just wanted to know the truth!

He often felt like a big piece of his life was missing because he didn't know the truth about his father. Now a father himself, Earl thought perhaps he could even understand his father's struggles and problems if given the chance.

Without telling anyone, Earl hired a detective agency to investigate whether his father was still alive. A few weeks later, the agency reported back to Earl that his father was alive and well, living only about 2 hours' drive away.

"That's it!" Earl said, "I'm just going to see him and ask him why he left us." Earl sighed and thought, Now I will find out the truth!

**Freedom in Christ Jesus** – John 8:31-38

1. Whom did the Jews claim as their most important ancestor?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What other ideas are part of the biblical concept of truth?  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
3. In Christ Jesus lies the \_\_\_\_\_ to set people free.
4. What were the people blind to?  
How sin keeps them in spiritual \_\_\_\_\_.
5. When we are freed from sin, what are we free to do? We are free to \_\_\_\_\_ God instead.

**Daily Readings**

Wednesday – Psalm 130

Thursday – John 7:51-8:11

Friday – Romans 3:19-31

Saturday – Romans 5:1-11

Sunday – Romans 5:12-21

Monday – Isaiah 55:6-13

Tuesday – Romans 6:1-14