

CHAPTER 3

FUNDAMENTAL #1: DON'T BELIEVE THE LIES

Biblical Lessons for Students, Athletes & More

Individual or Group Experience

FOCAL VERSE

"Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'" John 14:6 (NIV)

WISE WORDS

"Just going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in a garage makes you a car."
Billy Sunday

Introduction

There are many world religions, but there is only one truth. Jesus said, "*I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me*" (John 14:6). As you read chapter three, you will be presented with some very common, *but false ideas*, regarding Christianity. If you have ever believed any of these false notions, you're not alone! I've referred to these falsities as "lies" because they lack complete truth. Let's take a strategic time out to set the record straight.

Page 17

Read the first two sentences and respond to the following:

- Give several reasons why a coach would call a timeout. *Possible answers: change the game plan, stop the momentum of the opponent, set up a play, reprimand the team, rest and hydrate, communicate something significant, regain composure, etc.*
- What's the overall purpose of a timeout? *Reenergize, redirect, correct, and instruct.*
- STOP & PRAY. Before continuing, pray, asking the Holy Spirit to "redirect" or "correct" any thinking that is false or not in alignment with the God's Truth (His written Word).
- Continue reading through the top of page 18.
- According to John 14:6, (page 17) how many ways lead to God, the Father? *One way! Jesus!*
 - Look up Acts 4:12. What does it say in regards to how we are saved? *"There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved."*

But first...

- Since our last session, did you experience any personal conviction, in regards to how you are spending your time? If yes, would you be willing to share?
- Did you give any more thought to the possibility that you may have *unknowingly* erected some false idols in your life?



We've established that there's only one way to God, and only one means of salvation; so then, why are there countless religions that also claim to lead to God? And if Jesus is the Truth, then how can we distinguish between what is true and what is not? In order to recognize false doctrine, we have to know the truth, right? And this includes beliefs that are *almost true*.

OPTIONAL EXERCISE: Make copies of "Know Your Money," (included on pages 3-4) or better yet, examine real bills. Details, such as color-shifting ink and 3-D security ribbons are fascinating!

- **Discussion:** Banks and business owners train their employees to carefully examine currency so they can distinguish real money from counterfeit money. When retailers accept fake bills, they bear the entire burden of the loss. When we accept a counterfeit religion, so do we. The only way we can identify a false religion, or false beliefs, is to carefully examine and study the real truth—Biblical truth.

Pages 18-21



- Read through the bullet points listed on pages 18-21. Do not rush through these! Ponder or stop to discuss each one.
- Ask questions such as: "*Have you ever believed being good would save you?*" "*Were you taught that being baptized meant you were saved?*"
- These bullet points may create a spirited group discussion, but they should not lead to a heated debate. Continue to point the group to John 14:6: "*I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.*"

Page 22

Personal Training Session

These questions may be sensitive. Handle with care! (*They have been rephrased for group discussion*).

- According to John 14:6, how many ways lead to God?
- Of all the false beliefs listed on pages 18-21, which "lie" do you believe most people are confused about?
- What about you? Did you grow up believing any of these false ideas? If you answered "yes," would you be comfortable sharing which one(s)?
- End with Post Game Prayer on page 22-23.

LEADER: After walking through this chapter, consider following up with each group member to find out if they have any questions or concerns about how we are saved.



A Look Ahead

In session 4, we'll discuss the concept of "sin." Until then, ponder this question: "*Do you think churches downplay the issue of sin to make people feel more comfortable?*" Be prepared to discuss this question during our next session.

Know Your Money



2004 style Federal Reserve notes (FRNs) incorporate background colors and large, borderless portrait images.

Paper U.S. currency paper consists of 25% linen and 75% cotton and contains small randomly disbursed red and blue security fibers embedded throughout the paper.

Portrait The 2004 style FRNs have an enlarged and off-center portrait without a frame.

1 Watermark The 2004 style FRNs have a watermark that is visible from either side when held to light.

2 Color-Shifting Ink The 2004 style \$10, \$20, \$50 and \$100 FRNs have color-shifting ink that shifts from copper to green as the note is tilted 45 degrees. The 2004 style \$100 FRN has a color-shifting "Bell in the Inkwell". The \$5 FRN does not have color-shifting ink.

3 Security Thread All genuine FRNs, except the \$1 and \$2, have a clear thread embedded vertically in the paper. The thread is inscribed with the denomination of the note and is visible only when held to light. Each denomination has a unique thread position and glows a different color when held to ultraviolet (UV) light.

4 3-D Security Ribbon The 2004 style \$100 FRN features a blue ribbon woven into the paper. When you tilt the note back and forth, the bells and "100's" move side to side. If you tilt the note side to side, they move up and down.

5 Serial Numbers The first letter of the serial number on FRNs of series year 1996 or later corresponds to the series year.
E = 2004 I = 2006 L = 2009A
G = 2004A J = 2009

Bank Indicators

6 Federal Reserve Indicators The 2004 style FRNs have a letter and number designation, which identifies one of the 12 distributing Federal Reserve Banks. This letter and number designation appears beneath the serial number on the left. The number corresponds to the position of the letter in the alphabet, e.g.: A1, B2, C3, etc. The letter matches the second prefix letter in the serial number.

7 Note Position Letter and Number

8 Face Plate Number

9 Series Year

10 Back Plate Number (Not shown) Found on the bottom right-hand corner of the back of the note.

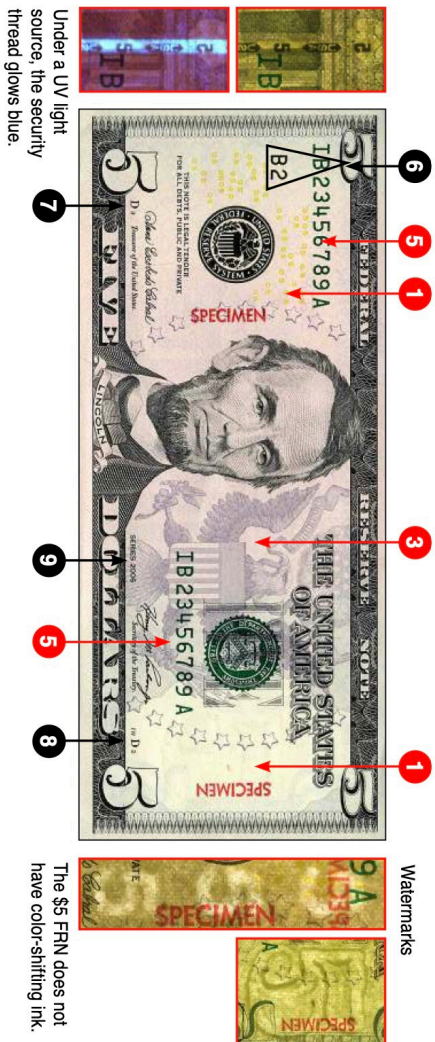
2004 style \$10 note issued March, 2006



Watermark

Copper to green color-shifting ink

2004 style \$5 note issued March, 2008



Watermarks

The \$5 FRN does not have color-shifting ink.

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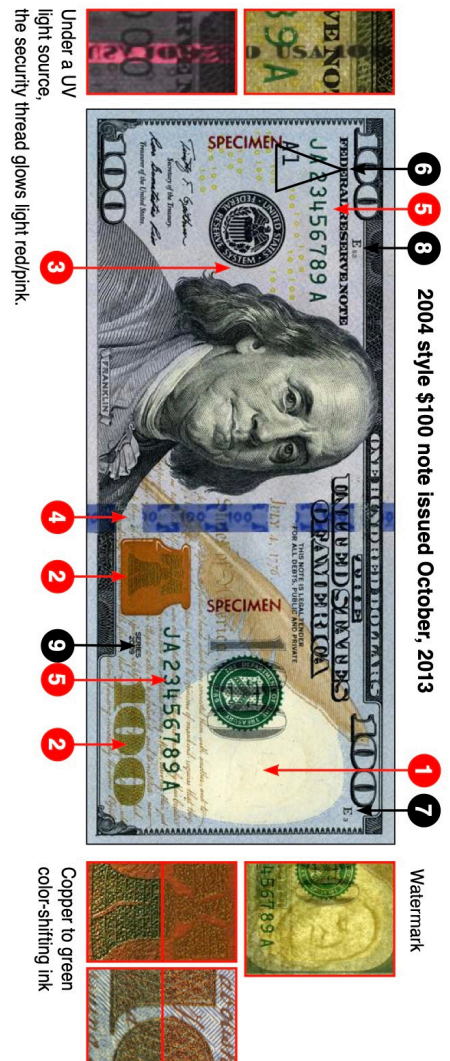
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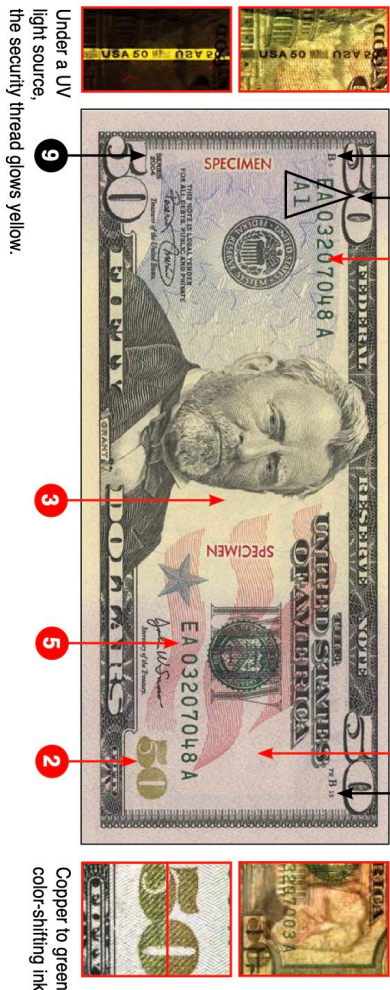
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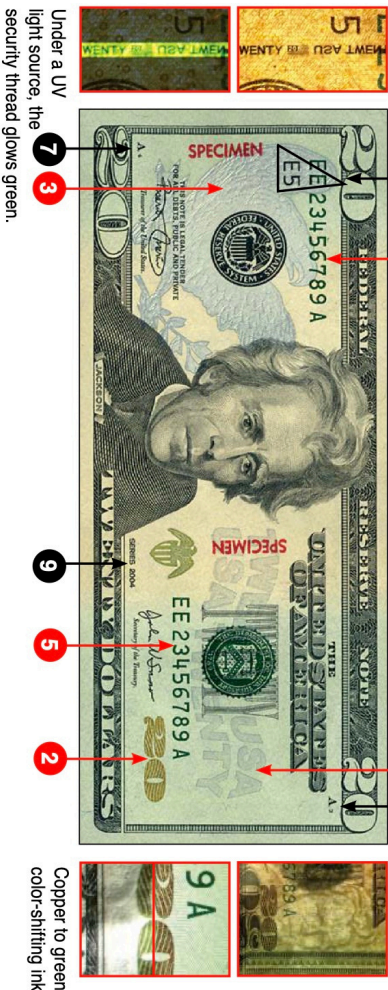
Under a UV light source, the security thread glows light red/pink.

2004 style \$50 note issued October, 2004



Under a UV light source, the security thread glows yellow.

2004 style \$20 note issued October, 2003



Under a UV light source, the security thread glows green.