

## *The Truman Show Questions*

### Movie

1. **What does Christof and the actors use to keep Truman trapped on Seahaven Island?**
2. **What are the events that make Truman truly suspicious about the reality of his world?**

Light falling, Radio, Elevator, Commercial by wife, Fingers crossed, Traffic

3. **What statement does the film make about the viewers of the show?**

Fickle, entertainment is chief

### Diving Deeper

1. **How is Christof like Satan?**

Think of Christof as the Great Deceiver and Prince of this World

2. **If Christof is Satan, who is Truman?**

Think of Truman as a seeker of truth

3. **How does Christof deceive?**

- Doubt – His ideas are crazy – “this world is all there is”
- Discouragement – Nothing left to explore \ Irresponsible (financially)
- Diversion – Father reappearing
- Defeat – Fear of water
- Delay – Wait for six months, then we’ll go. \ Travel agency – flights booked
- Downplay “This will pass. We all think like this now and then.”

Just like Satan:

- Doubt – Makes you question God’s Word and his goodness
- Discouragement – Makes you look at your problem rather than at God
- Diversion – Makes the wrong things seem attractive so that you want them more than the right things.
- Defeat – Makes you feel like a failure so that you don’t even try.
- Delay – Makes you put off doing something so that it never gets done.

4. **Christof is asked why Truman never has discovered the truth. Christof replies, “We accept the reality of the world with which we are presented. It’s as simple as that.” Do you think that’s true for people living in the world today? How does Satan use our acceptance for his purposes?**

We forget that there’s a spiritual war. We focus on the here and now.  
Temporal rather than eternal.

5. **Christof says:** *“He could leave at any time. If his was more than just a vague ambition, if he was absolutely determined to discover the truth, there’s no way we could prevent him. I think what distresses you is that, ultimately, Truman prefers his cell, as you call it.”*

**How is statement also true of a life of sin?**

We often prefer to stay in our cell of sin rather than experience freedom in Christ.

1 John 19-20 - We know also that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true.

Jer 29:12-13 - You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

6. **Christof says,** *“I have given Truman a chance to live a normal life. The world, the place you live in, is the sick place. Seahaven is the way the world should be.”* **Do you think Satan would say that to God?**
7. **How is Christof a reminder of the old saying that the devil counterfeits God?**  
Creator
8. **How does this film illustrate the reality of 1 John 5:19-20 and 2 Cor 4:4?**

*We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one. We know also that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true. And we are in him who is true-even in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life. (1 John 5:19-20)*

*The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. (2 Cor 4:4)*

9. **What is the Christian imagery of the boat scene towards the end of the film?**
10. **What was the reaction of Truman when he discovered the end of the world? How does that parallel real life when we find what true freedom is?**

Bittersweet – bitter over the fact that we’ve been taken in, but sweet that there’s something better for us.

11. **How is the following conversation at the end similar to something that might be said between Satan and a person?**

*Christof: Listen to me, Truman. You can leave if you want, I won’t try to stop you. But you won’t survive out there. You don’t know what to do, where to go.*

*Truman: I have a map.*

*Christof: Truman, I’ve watched you your whole life, I saw you taking your fist step, your first word, your first kiss. I know you better than you know yourself. You are not going to walk out that door.*

*Truman: You never had a camera inside my head.*

- deceiver – maybe deceive himself too
- powerless to stop Truman
- He can't read our minds

**12. What is Sylvia doing while Truman is trying to escape?**

**13. What is the significance of the names used in the film -- Christof, Truman, Sylvia, Lauren.**

- Christof (one off Christ)
- Truman (True man)
- Lauren a name meaning "guardian spirit" / Sylvia ("trees" – spiritual significance – Christ dying on a tree, tree of life, etc. )
- Santa Maria
- Burbank

**14. Imagine you are talking with a non-believer after watching this film – what elements of the film might you use in order to help them to think about the gospel?**

"For it is, after all, Jesus who condemns "the god of this world" and assures us there is a reality which is larger than what we see around us. Conversely, it is secularism which attempts to squash at every turn the longing of the human heart for a world beyond what is presented to our senses. It is Christian hope that seeks heaven. It is secularism which laughs this hope to scorn and insists (just like Christof) that the cosmos inside the Dome is, in the words of Carl Sagan, "all there is or ever was or ever will be." Truman's hope can't be kept in by Christof's dome. But it is secularism, not Christian faith, which builds such domes constantly."

-- Mark Shea, Decentfilms.com