



## **WOW: Word Of the Week**

### **TRUTHING**

**October 11, 2023**

I love words. I like comparing the way different languages communicate the same idea. Figures of speech can be especially challenging to translate – “you’re pulling my leg!”

Greek has a verb that does not exist in English – aletheuo, the verb form of the word aletheia, truth. That’s right. The Greeks had a verb: literally, to truth. The word can mean “to be true.” Since truth is often spoken, the word naturally means “to speak truth,” a common translation of Eph. 4:15.

But, let’s let our imaginations fly for a moment. What are the possibilities? What could it mean to say, “He is truthing”? I see possibilities beyond speaking the truth. What about living the truth? Practicing the truth? Being the truth (like Jesus)?

What would you expect if someone described another person as “truthing”? Truthing in love. If someone challenged you to a “truthing” contest, how would you bone up? (Another interesting figure of speech!)

Some words are for thinking, dreaming, growing. In the text I mentioned, Paul says that the result of truthing is growing up, maturing, in everyway in Christ. Probably Paul is reflecting the phrase from an earlier verse, growing up into a measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ. Becoming more and more like Jesus.

Truthing. Speaking truth. Practicing truth. Living truth. Genuine. Authentic.

We will do it imperfectly at first, perhaps always.

But it is a goal worthy of our best efforts and prayers.

Happy truthing!