



Can truth change?

You have probably watched TV “reality” shows that test people’s survival skills. Maybe you have seen news stories about people who endured real life-threatening situations. As you read the article, ask yourself: **Can our attitude change the truth of our circumstances?**

Riding the Waves

What could you do with one hand tied behind your back? Could you lace up your shoes? How about make a sandwich? The **truth** is, most people will never need to find out how hard it is do those tasks one-handed. For teen surfer Bethany Hamilton, however, one-handedness is a way of life.

Hamilton has been a surfer since her parents put her on a surfboard when she was a toddler. Growing up on Kauai, in the Hawaiian Islands, she became one of the world’s best young surfers. At age thirteen, she finished second in the women’s national championship. Her performance was good enough to **convince** surf companies to sponsor her.

Riding the waves was Hamilton’s life. Early-morning surfing was a regular event for her and her friends. On the morning of October 31, 2003, there was no way to **determine** that a simple before-school surf would change Hamilton’s life forever.

It was like a scene out of the movie *Jaws*. Hamilton was relaxing on her surfboard, floating in the ocean. Her left arm was dangling over the edge of her board, in the water.



Bethany Hamilton rides a wave. ▶