

Seminar 1 - The Gospel

Part 1. Understanding the Gospel

What is the Gospel?

Some Key Passages

1 Corinthians 15:1-4. *Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures*

2 Timothy 2:8 (NIV). *Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David. This is my gospel*

Passages that Preach the gospel

John 3:16-18 - *“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.*

1 Peter 3:18 - Christ suffered to bring us to God

Romans 6:23 - Dead in sin, eternal life in Christ

Ephesians 2:1-10 - Dead in Sin, Made alive in Christ

Romans 3:21-26 - Statement on Justification

Summary Statements of the Gospel

God, through the perfect life, atoning death, and bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ, rescues all his people from the wrath of God into peace with God, with a promise of the full restoration of his created order forever--all to the praise of the glory of his grace.¹

The gospel is that Christ died for our sins and He rose and through faith in Him we can be reconciled to the Father.²

God has entered the world in Jesus Christ to achieve a salvation that we could not achieve for ourselves which now 1) converts and transforms individuals, forming them into a new humanity, and eventually 2) will renew the whole world and all creation.³

The Gospel Announcement: *Jesus is Savior and Lord*

The Gospel Message: *God saves sinners⁴*

Part 2 - Communicating the Gospel

The Content

The Cross and the Resurrection (The Center)

God, Man, Christ, Response (A Personal view)

Creation, Fall, Redemption, Consummation (A Cosmic View)

The Perspective

“Evangelism is not just presenting a body of knowledge to another person. It is introducing Jesus Christ himself to another person.” ~Kent Hughes⁵

Redemption - Freedom from slavery to sin (1 Pet 1:18)

Justification - Forgiveness from the guilt of sin (Rom 3:23-24; 5:9)

Reconciliation - Peace from hostility toward God (Col 1:21-22; Rom 5:10)

Adoption - Identity as God’s Child (Gal 4:4-7; 1 John 3:1-3)

Regeneration - New Life with God (1 Peter 1:3; 2 Cor 5:17)

Sanctification - Purity in God (Rom 6:22; 1 Pet 1:2)

Tools for Communicating the gospel:

¹From Ray Ortlund, *The Gospel* (Crossway, 2014), 16.

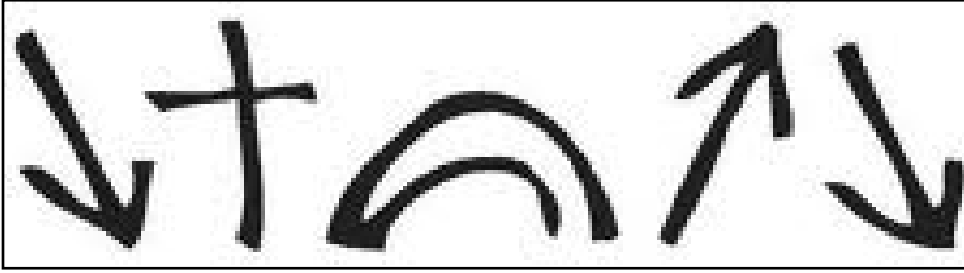
² <http://www.thevillagechurch.net/sermon/the-gospel-of-jesus-christ/>, accessed 3/10/2017

³ Tim Keller. http://extendingthekingdom.org/?page_id=17, accessed 3/10/2017

⁴ J.I. Packer on the one point soteriology of Calvinism, found in his introduction to *the Death of Death in the Death of Christ*, John Owens.

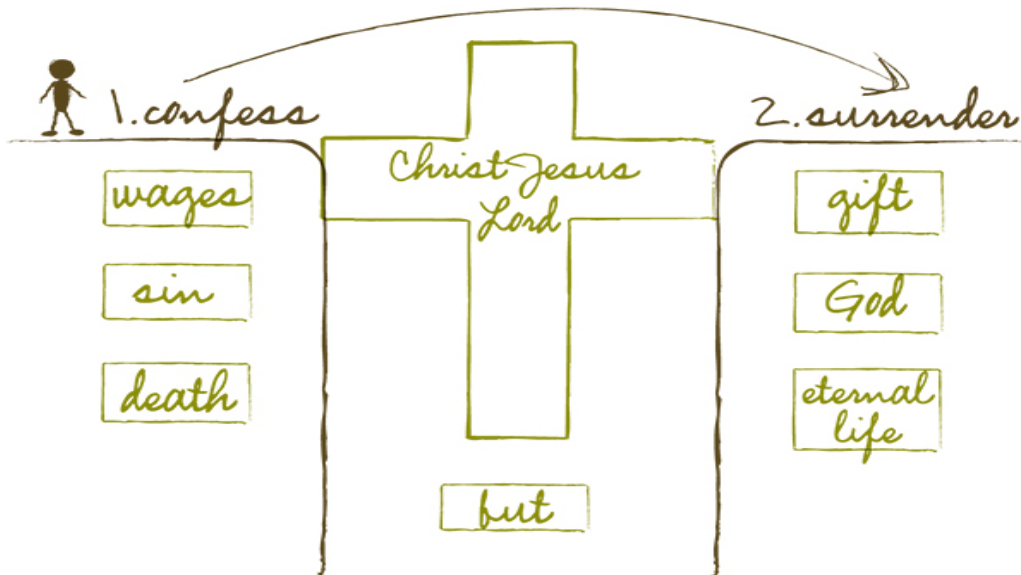
⁵ Quoted in *The Art of Personal Evangelism*, Will McRaney Jr (B&H Academic, 2003), 98.

Gospel Arrows (Jesus came, died for sin, rose again, ascended, is returning)



The Bridge to Life (Navigators) Individual View (Romans 6:23)

For the wages of sin is death
 but the gift of God is eternal life
 in Christ Jesus our Lord.



Two Ways to live (Mathias Media) - Cosmic View

TWO WAYS TO LIVE: THE CHOICE WE ALL FACE

- God is the loving ruler of the world.
- He made the world.
- He made us rulers of the world under Him.



1. "Worthy are You, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and because of Your will they existed, and were created." (Rev 4:11)

- We all reject the ruler-God-by trying to run life our own way without Him, but we fail to rule ourselves or society or the world.



2. "There is none righteous, not even one; there is none who understands, there is none who seeks for God; all have turned aside, together they have become useless," (Rom 3:10-12)

- God won't let us rebel forever.
- God's punishment for rebellion is death and judgment.



3. "It is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment." (Heb 9:27)

- Because of His love, God sent his Son into the world: the man Jesus Christ.
- Jesus always lived under Gods rule.
- Yet by dying in our place he took our punishment and brought forgiveness.



4. "For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit;" (1Pe 3:18)

- God raised Jesus to life again as the ruler of the world.
- Jesus has conquered death, now gives new life and will return to judge.



5. "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead," (1Pe 1:3)

The Two Ways To live; Our Way or Gods new way

OUR WAY:

- REJECT OUR RULER(GOD)
-TRY TO RUN LIFE OUR OWN WAY
RESULT - CONDEMNED BY GOD, FACING DEATH AND JUDGMENT

GODS NEW WAY:

- SUBMIT TO JESUS AS OUR RULER
-RELY ON JESUS' DEATH AND RESURRECTION
RESULT - FORGIVEN BY GOD & GIVEN ETERNAL LIFE

6. "He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him." (Joh 3:36)

Part 3 - Promoting the Gospel (ways we make the gospel look beautiful and display its credibility)

Praying for the lost

Partnering Financially

Local Church, Evangelists, Missionaries, Mercy Ministries, and Church Planters

Good Works

Godly Living

Christian love for one another

Conversation

Book Recommends:

What is the Gospel, Greg Gilbert

The Gospel, Ray Ortlund

The Gospel and Personal Evangelism, Mark Dever.

Gospel. J.D. Greear

The Explicit Gospel, Matt Chandler

The Best Kept Secret of Christian Mission, John Dickinson

The Gospel's Power and Message, Paul Washer

The Cross of Christ, John Stott

Systematic Theology, Wayne Grudem

Institutes of the Christian Religion, John Calvin