



## Episode 3: Gospel Awareness Part 1: The Power of the Gospel

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“And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”” — Matthew 8:18-20

“Do you not say, ‘There are yet four months, then comes the harvest’? Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest.” — John 4:35

### Summary

The gospel is good news for everyone. No one is exempt because they have it all together. We are all sinners in need of a Savior. Moreover, the gospel doesn't fix just one part of our lives, but imparts eternal life to our whole being. It answers our deepest needs and touches every part of our lives: our mental problems, our guilt, our dying bodies, our fear, our loneliness, our failures, our broken relationships, our loss of purpose or meaning, our addictions, and of course our sins. The cross and resurrection of Christ promise not just a quick fix to a few specific problems, but that we can be a new creation in Christ (2 Cor. 5:27)! What a great and powerful message we have been entrusted to proclaim! This should remind us that since the gospel makes all things new for the believer, we can have many points of entry for talking about Christ to the unbeliever. The gospel is like a jewel with many facets, and can be viewed in all its beauty from different angles. Justification, regeneration, reconciliation, adoption, redemption, and sanctification are six of the key aspects of how the gospel message transforms our lives. If we understand all of these well, it will serve us in knowing how to best present the gospel to people in specific situations. The Pharisees, the sons of Zebedee, the Judaizers, the demoniac of the Gadarenes, and the woman at the well all needed to hear the gospel of the kingdom, yet Jesus approached them in different ways. Let us be wise and see the presenting needs of our unbelieving friends and neighbors, so we can share the gospel with them in ways they will understand and--with God's grace--receive.

## Podcast Listening Notes

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## Reflection Questions

Jesus commands his followers, 'lift up your eyes,' (Mt 4:35). Consider what is keeping you from looking up and seeing those around you who need to hear the gospel. What does Jesus mean when he says, "the fields are ripe for harvest?"

Look at the Multifaceted Gospel chart. Which facet/approach best describes how you first received the gospel? Is that how you tend to share the gospel with others? What facets are less familiar to you?

List out a few unbelieving people whom the Lord has put on your heart. Using the Multifaceted Gospel chart, work out what you think best describes their presenting need, and what facet of the gospel they need to hear.



### Action Point

Familiarize yourself with the Multifaceted Gospel chart. When we see the many facets of the gospel, we see how many ways it meets our deepest human needs. Practice putting these gospel concepts into plain, conversational language- with specific people in mind. Try to communicate these truths using a simple and clear vocabulary. If you were to use any theological terms (justification, redemption, baptize, iniquity, etc.) consider how you could explain them in simple terms to someone unfamiliar with that language.



### Prayer Prompt

Pray using Jesus' words in Matt 9:36-38. 'Lord, give me eyes to see and a heart of compassion for the lost around me. Send laborers among them. Lord, send me! Give me opportunities to speak of Christ , and the boldness to do so clearly and joyfully.'

Pray for specific Friends, family members, neighbors, co-workers, and classmates whom the Lord has laid on your heart and set in your path.



# THE MULTIFACETED GOSPEL

GOSPEL WORK	IDENTITY OF GOD	DESCRIPTION OF SIN	LIFE APPLICATION	PRESENTING NEED	BIBLICAL REFERENCES
JUSTIFIED	Merciful Judge	Disobedience Law-breaking	Forgiveness Righteousness	Guilt Unrighteousness Self-Righteousness	Rom 3:21-26 2 Cor 5:21 Col 2:13-14
REGENERATED	Gracious Life-Giver	Death Sickness	Rebirth New Life	Hopelessness Emptiness Failure	Joh 3:1-9 2 Cor 5:17 1 Pet 1:3-5
RECONCILED	Wise Peacemaker	Hostility Rebellion	Peace Restoration	Alienation Brokenness Anger	Rom 5:7-10 Eph 2:11-16 Col 1:19-22
ADOPTED	Loving Father	Lost Self-Reliance	Identity Acceptance	Purposelessness Loneliness Insecurity	Luk 15:11-32 Gal 4:3-7 1 Joh 3:1-3
REDEEMED	Powerful Deliverer	Bondage Oppression	Freedom Rescue	Addiction Fear Depression	Rom 6:16-18 Col 1:13-14 1 Pet 1:17-19
SANCTIFIED	Holy Purifier	Impurity Uncleanness	Purity Value	Shame Unworthiness Abuse	1 Cor 6:9-11 Eph 5:25-27 1 Joh 1:5-9