

## **Evangelism – Wednesday 2/8/2017**

These notes were taken from a 14-week class on evangelism that is being taught on Sunday evenings by Delbert Summey. The class is intended to both equip you and exhort you to be active and intentional in taking the Gospel to the people God has placed around you.

### **Introduction – Three Things We Must Recognize**

1. The purpose of history is to bring God \_\_\_\_\_. (**Isaiah 43:7; 1 Corinthians 10:31; Colossians 1:16**). This means that everything we do in life, including evangelism, ultimately is to display to the world that God is worthy of all our lives. This should be our primary motivation in proclaiming the Gospel. As John Piper says in His book, *Let the Nations Be Glad*, “missions exists because worship does not.” That means the reason we proclaim the Gospel, at home or abroad, is because people are not rightly worshipping Christ. We should call them to worship Him that He might receive the glory He deserves.
2. God is the \_\_\_\_\_. He delights in saving sinners (**Luke 19:10; 1 Timothy 1:15**). We must remember that God is the one who has compassion on the lost and He is seeking and saving them. We are merely joining Him in His great purpose. Our purpose in life must be determined by God’s purpose. As we have seen His great love for sinners in our own salvation, we should delight in joining Him to help others come to know Him.
3. We’ve been entrusted with the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of proclaiming the gospel (**Matthew 4:19, 28:18-20; Acts 1:7-8; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; 2 Timothy 4:5**). Evangelism is not an elective for the believer. It’s a command and a responsibility, it’s also an honor and a privilege. We have been assigned the position of introducing people to the King of Kings.

Tonight, we’ll be talking about what our proclamation is. What is the Gospel of Jesus? The purpose of this lesson is to give us a clear understanding of what God calls us to say to the lost people He has placed around us. We must understand that God being sovereign over all means that a person’s acceptance or rejection of the Gospel is not finally \_\_\_\_\_ on how persuasive we are in sharing it. And yet while this is true, we also want to be faithful in being as clear as possible with this message of hope.

## I. What does the Bible say About the Gospel?

A. The Gospel has \_\_\_\_\_ to save sinners. (Romans 1:16-17)

**<sup>16</sup> For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. <sup>17</sup> For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “The just shall live by faith.”**

B. The Gospel is not mere human \_\_\_\_\_. (1 Corinthians 1:17-20, 25)

**<sup>17</sup> For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of no effect. <sup>18</sup> For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup> For it is written: “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent.” <sup>20</sup> Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world?**

**<sup>25</sup> Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.**

C. There are \_\_\_\_\_ gospels in the world that result in death. (Galatians 1:6-12)

**<sup>6</sup> I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, <sup>7</sup> which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. <sup>8</sup> But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. <sup>9</sup> As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed. <sup>10</sup> For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ. <sup>11</sup> But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. <sup>12</sup> For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ.**

The Gospel isn't a...

- \_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_ gospel. “Self-improvement” - You can do it if you put your mind to it.

- \_\_\_\_\_ gospel. “Truth is relative” - I’m ok, you’re ok, we’re all ok.
- \_\_\_\_\_ gospel. “Jesus will make your life better” - having enough faith = health & wealth.

D. The Gospel calls for a right \_\_\_\_\_. (1 Peter 4:17)

**<sup>17</sup> For the time has come for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God?**

A right response to the Gospel is to \_\_\_\_\_ of sin and \_\_\_\_\_ in Jesus. When we repent of our sin and believe in Christ, God forgives our sins. This means He cancels the debt of our sin against Himself and gives us the Holy Spirit to renew and transform our lives.

**<sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness - 1 John 1:9**

## II. What does the Bible say the Gospel Is?

One of the clearest statements about the Gospel is found in **1 Corinthians 15:1-5**.

**<sup>1</sup>Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, <sup>2</sup> by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. <sup>3</sup> For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup> and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, <sup>5</sup> and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve.**

In this passage we see the heart of what the Bible calls good news. There are several components in this passage, we will highlight three.

First, Christ \_\_\_\_\_, was \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ from the dead. (v3-4)

Second, Christ died for our \_\_\_\_\_. (v3)

Third, we are saved by a Gospel that we \_\_\_\_\_ and in which we \_\_\_\_\_. (v1-2)

The bible describe how we should receive the Gospel. Consider the following verses:

**Mark 1:15<sup>15</sup> and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.”**

**Acts 2:38<sup>38</sup> Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.**

**Acts 3:19<sup>19</sup> Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord,**

**Romans 10:9-10<sup>9</sup> that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.<sup>10</sup> For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.**

### **III. What Else Should We Say When We Share the Gospel?**

To help those we share with understand more clearly, I suggest a four-part story. These four parts are: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

**1.** The \_\_\_\_\_ who created the heavens and the earth made humanity to worship and fellowship with Him.

The fact that the God of the Bible is the God who created everything is very important. The Bible constantly exalts God as the true God because He is the creator in contrast to the false gods, who did not create, but are really created by man (**Gen. 1:1; John 1:1-5**). God did not create people to simply submit to Him and nothing else. God is a personal God who created humans not only to worship and serve Him, but also to fellowship with Him (**1 John 1:3**).

**2.** \_\_\_\_\_ has rebelled against God and become a slave to sin; as a result he stands under God's holy wrath and judgment.

One of the key issues in understanding salvation is answering the question “what am I saved from?” Often times believers simply answer “I am saved from Hell.” This is certainly true, but it is not the whole truth. Mankind needs to be rescued from two primary things: Enslavement to sin, and God’s wrath and eternal judgment. (**Romans**

**3:23; Romans 6:23a)**

3. \_\_\_\_\_, the Son of God, died on the cross and was raised from the dead and now stands as the Lord who is able to save those who repent, and condemn those who rebel.

The Gospel and salvation (and the story of the Bible itself) find its high point in the person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ. Because of God's mercy and grace, He promised to make a way for humanity to be reconciled to Him. The Lord Jesus Christ is the fulfillment of God's promises. (**Romans 6:23b; Romans 5:8-10**)

- Jesus became a man (**Philippians 2:4-7**),
- died on the cross in the place of sinners and then rose physically from the grave in victory over the powers of sin, Satan, and death (**1 Corinthians 15:3-4; Romans 6:9-10**).
- God the Father exalted Jesus to His right hand as Lord of heaven and earth (**Acts. 2:36**),
- to wait for the day when He will return to judge the living and the dead (**Revelation 19:11-15**),
- and establish God's kingdom upon the earth (**Revelation 20:1-4**).

4. We must \_\_\_\_\_ to the Gospel by turning from our sin (repent) and believing in Jesus as Lord and Savior to receive forgiveness of sins. (**Romans 10:9-10**)

In this time before Jesus returns and judges the earth, God graciously offers salvation to those who will repent from their sin and believe in Jesus (**Romans 3:22**). To repent means to turn from one's sin and rebellion to the Lord Jesus Christ in faith for forgiveness and salvation. God does not desire or accept mere outward service, show, or religious ritual; instead He commands whole-hearted devotion and a life that denies themselves and follows after Christ (**Matthew 16:24-28**).

This type of devotion to Christ is driven by faith. The author of Hebrews describes faith as "being sure of what we hope for, being convinced of what we do not see" (**Hebrews 11:1**).

There you have it. \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_. It's a really simple and easy way to remember the Gospel.

#### **IV. Life On Mission – 3 Circles: Life Conversation Guide**