

# The Gospel - Part 1

Sunday, July 14 2019

## Introduction

### Outreach

We began preparation for a new type of outreach on Wednesday

#### We need to witness

- We know we need to witness
- We're familiar with the *Go Ye* from the great commission
- But... we're not so great at doing this

#### Barrier starting convo/turning it to Jesus

We discussed a couple of difficulties we have:

- It's hard to start conversations
- It's hard to turn conversation to the topic of Jesus!

#### "Ask me about Jesus"

- This outreach will address those two issues
- T-Shirts saying *Ask me about Jesus*
- They become the conversation starter
- The topic is immediately on Jesus

#### Power of the Gospel

- We shared that our goal is to give the Gospel
- See **Rom 1:16-17 (ESV)** (16) *For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. (17) For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."*
- In the Gospel - God's power for salvation and transformation is contained. When we share that - lives are forever changed

#### Shameless plug

- Our discussion continued from there Wednesday
- **Note:** We are continuing to prepare for this outreach in training. Each Wednesday we'll become better prepared to share our faith
- Last week I wrote down some of your questions

- **This week** - address one of your questions: What if they ask *How do you know the bible is real*

## Today

- In our discussion Wednesday, I asked *What is the Gospel?* and we discussed
- I gave a brief summary
- For the next couple of weeks - I want to dive a little deeper into that discussion
- Our text today is **1 Cor 15:1-4 (ESV)** (1) *Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, (2) and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you--unless you believed in vain. (3) For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, (4) that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures,*
- From that passage, I want to outline the core of the Gospel, and then what one must do with it to be saved

## Is

### Jesus died

- God loved the world - he sent his Son (John 3:16)
- Jesus lived a sinless life - although tempted in every way as are we (**Heb 4:15 (ESV)** (15) *For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.*)
- Hung on the cross to die

### For our sins

- This is the key point of the Gospel
- Jesus died a death he didn't deserve - but one we did
- His death was in our place
- His death was enough to satisfy the judgment we earned

### Raised on the third day

- Paul continues in our passage listing those who saw him - over 500
- Jesus is alive
- This fact proves his death was in our place
- **Rom 6:23 (ESV)** (23) *For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*
- Jesus died - but having no sin on his record - death couldn't hold him!
- He rose from the dead

- There is now a *credit balance* in the death column
- **Illustrate** Paying the water bill double
- The debt has been (past tense) paid

## Promises

- We shared this Wednesday
- Not going to belabor it here
- Simply put **Rom 10:13 (ESV)** (13) *For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."*
- The Gospel is God's power for the salvation of mankind!

## Must be

### Preached

- We talked a little about this Wednesday
- **Rom 10:14 (ESV)** (14) *How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching?*
- Point of our outreach
- Must be shared to transform
- **Note:** Basis of my sermon next week
- **Homework** Read through 1st Corinthians 1-2

### Received

- Jesus paid the price for salvation
- There is nothing that is lacking
- But we saw in the promise - one must *call on the name of the Lord*
- They have to hear it
- They have to understand it
- They have to believe it
- Then, by faith, call out for salvation!
- God will not force anyone to be saved!
- He will judge according to the law every sin and sinner
- If we reject His salvation there is no other hope!
- See the verse on the back of the T-Shirt **John 14:6 (ESV)** (6) *Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."*

### Clung to

- See again v2 **1 Cor 15:2 (ESV)** (2) *and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you--unless you believed in vain.*
- This faith that saves us is... **ongoing**
- We must hold fast
- The only thing that's going to get us into heaven is the faith in Jesus' completed work at calvary
- Enemy tries to erode / weaken that faith
- We must trust the Gospel
- How foolish to have started the race - but not hold on until the end to finish it
- **Note:** See faith in the **word!** - the truth of the Gospel. In what was preached to them. In what's spelled out here for you
- Paul is the example of someone *clinging to* the Gospel!
- See **Phili 3:7-14 (ESV)** (7) *But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. (8) Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ (9) and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith-- (10) that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, (11) that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead. (12) Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. (13) Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, (14) I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.*

## Conclusion

- What are you doing with the Gospel
- Have you believed?
- Are you clinging to it (alone). Does our pursuit of faith sound like Pauls?
- Will you share it?