

What Is The Gospel?

by Rebecca Wiggins

It was such a privilege to grow up in a Christian home. My siblings and I have teased that we went to church even before we were born. I've certainly heard my fair share of sermons. Yet when I was in college, my boss, an assistant pastor at the church, posed a question that stumped me at first. He asked, "What is the Gospel?"

Mmm! I hem hawed around and felt like I should definitely know the right way to answer this. Have you ever thought you've known the answer but didn't know how to put it into the right words? That was me on this day. I answered something like, "It's the story of Jesus. It's what is preached at church." He said, "The Bible defines the Gospel simply. It's the Death, Burial, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ."

"For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures." - 1 Corinthians 15:3-4

That preacher helped me that day. After almost 30 years, I have not forgotten our conversation. The definition of "The Gospel" became crystal clear to me, and I've used it ever since to help people understand God's plan for the world. The word Gospel translated from the Greek means "Good News." The "Good News" is that "Jesus Saves!" But Who is this Jesus? Many men have been named "Jesus" but it's the second part of His name, "Christ" that makes the Devil tremble. Jesus wanted this to be very clear.

"He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." - Matthew 16:15-16

Jesus Christ is the answer to all of our questions. The Gospel message is how we reach the world.

"That Christ should suffer, and that he should be the first that should rise from the dead, and should shew light unto the people, and to the Gentiles." Acts 26:23

Every single person needs to hear that "Jesus Saves" and that He is the only way to Heaven.

"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." - John 14:6

Have you ever been asked about your faith? The Gospel is what we believe. It is the answer we can give to others. If we don't learn how to share what God did for us, it will be of none effect to those who need to hear about what has changed our lives.

"For Christ sent me...to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect. For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God." - 1 Corinthians 1:17-18

This is why it is vitally important to stay involved in a Bible-believing church that preaches the Gospel. So many people get stoooped in religion and become sidetracked from the truth of God's Word. If we're not careful, our beliefs can become man-made ideas and traditions that Jesus warned us of when He said,

"Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition..." - Mark 7:13

Our spiritual decision to be saved and baptized pictures the Gospel - the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The old man is crucified and the new man is born again through faith in Christ.

"Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." - Romans 6:4

Once we are saved and baptized, it's time to walk in the newness of life. We are to glorify God and bring people to Jesus because we live in victory. We walk with the Lord by having devotions and attending church to keep our priorities in check. This verse helps me so much by reminding me to look to Jesus:

"If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God." - Colossians 3:1

Has the Gospel changed your life? If not, please visit www.sbcdaughters.com/salvation to learn about salvation and to know for sure Heaven will be your home.

"But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus." - Ephesians 2:4-6

If you have been made new in Christ, seek each day to live in victory. Leave the past behind and reach forth to all the things God has for you! You are a Daughter of the King. Share the Gospel so others can live in freedom too.

"This one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" - Philippians 3:13-14

What is the Gospel? It's the "Good News" that Jesus died, was buried, and rose again for our sins. Now...let's go share it!

