

# INTRODUCTION: REVIEW OF LAST WEEK

**SLIDE:** Opening slide

**SLIDE:** We are on **Week 2 of 12** of our evangelism series. After session 1, your homework due today was to create a list of a few people to pray for. If you have not done that. **Jot some names down on your notes right now. This is not to turn in - just to keep on track personally.**

## **SLIDE: WE ARE ALL WITNESSES**

As Christians, it is all our responsibility

**SLIDE:** BTW the Greek word for witnesses is martures, from which we get our word martyr...It's someone who is putting his life on the line

I've heard many of you have already applying this...A couple I talked to already began witnessing to people. **Would anyone like to share a quick story right now?**

**SLIDE:** Last week by way of review, we talked about the **motivation** for Evangelism

1. To glorify God
2. To express love for God
3. To express God's love for man
4. To trust God's sovereignty

**SLIDE:** Then we talked about the **NATURE of Evangelism**

- True evangelism is a **verbal proclamation of a message**
- **To evangelize** is to verbally proclaim the objective Gospel of Jesus Christ, bringing its message to bear upon a person's soul. For this reason (Evangelism results in belief or unbelief.) It is an **authoritative proclamation** from God Himself, THROUGH the Christian who presents it.

**SLIDE: We also learned that Doing good works** are appropriate to properly **adorn** the Gospel, but in themselves they are not the Gospel. Lastly we talked about WHO is responsible?

**SLIDE:** Today we will discuss what exactly is that message? What is the objective message of Gospel?

**SLIDE:** Let's first see what the Gospel is NOT

**SLIDE:**

- With God, you can do it if you put your mind to it. (self-righteous Gospel)
- I'm ok, you're ok. (truth is relative, liberal Gospel)
- Jesus makes your life better. (healthy, wealthy, wise)
- Jesus makes the world a better place. (Feed, clothe, build, recycle)

Let's look at some examples of these. *Evangelicals vary on defining the Gospel, each has some truth mixed in, but in themselves are not complete statements of the gospel. Glaring omissions: Sin and propitiation.*

**SLIDE: Jesus makes your life better**

*The good news is, **God wants to show you his incredible favor.** He wants to fill your life with "new wine," but are you willing to get rid of your old wineskins? Will you start thinking bigger? Will you enlarge your vision and get rid of those old negative mindsets that hold you back?*

**SLIDE: Jesus is your cheerleader**

*The good news is that God's face will always be turned toward you, regardless of what you have done, where you have been, or how many mistakes you've made. He loves you and is turned in your direction, looking for you.*

**SLIDE: Jesus shows us the best way to live**

*"Jesus at one point claimed to be "the way, the truth, and the life." Jesus was not making claims about one religion being better than all other religions...rather he was telling those who were following him that his way*

*is the the way to the depth of reality...This kind of life Jesus was living...is the best possible way for a person to live.”*

**SLIDE: Jesus makes the world better**

*The radical revolutionary empire of God is here, advancing by reconciliation and peace, expanding by faith, hope, and love—beginning with the poorest, the weakest, the meekest, and the least. It’s time to change your thinking. Everything is about to change. It’s time for a new way of life. Believe me. Follow me. Believe this good news so you can learn to live by it and be part of the revolution.”*

**SLIDE: For the good of mankind**

*“there was this man who was a Jew. He believed that God’s purposes to rescue the whole world were coming to fulfillment. He died to take the weight of evil upon himself. He rose to launch God’s project and to invite the whole world to join in with it and find it for themselves.” ...[the Cross] “was the moment when the evil and pain of all the world were heaped up into one place, there to be dealt with once and for all.”*

So these have shreds of truth, but none are the complete Gospel

**SLIDE: What is the Gospel proper? The Gospel IS...**

Let’s look at some verses regarding the nature of Gospel proclamation

**SLIDE: God’s power of salvation: Rom 1:16**

- The Gospel is God’s means of salvation for Jews and Gentiles.
- His righteousness is revealed by faith. It’s a message about God’s justice that is received by faith. Notice Paul’s OBLIGATION to preach it.
- The gospel is the message through which God saves sinners

**SLIDE: God’s power of salvation: 1 Cor 15**

Notice the gospel is a message that Paul preached (kerusso) - and when it is received, it results in salvation.

Notice some elements of the Gospel message

- MESSIAH - GOD is a savior
- OUR SINS - Man is a sinner
- CHRIST - Christ died for our sins

**SLIDE: God works through His Word - 1 Cor 1**

***18 For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. 19 For it is written,***

***“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
And the cleverness of the clever I will set aside.”***

***20 Where is the wise man? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? 21 For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not come to know God, God was well-pleased through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe.***

READ the rest of the chapter and 2

And when I came to you, brethren, I did not come with superiority of speech or of wisdom, proclaiming to you the testimony of God. 2 For I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified. 3 I was with you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling, 4 and **my message and my preaching** were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, 5 so that your faith would not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God.

**THE Gospel is the objective message that when proclaimed, results in salvation for those whom God has elected unto salvation.**

**Unlike regular good news that may only be relevant to you or a specific group of people** (e.g. Warrior winning the Finals, which are just for warrior fans), the gospel isn't just any good news--relevant to a small group of people. **NO, it's a message from God and how ALL PEOPLES can be saved from His judgement!** So it is relevant for all of us to hear! And it's announcement that can't be ignored and demands a response! Since **the response has an eternal effect on the soul of the person hearing the good news.**

With those stakes, it's also an announcement which cannot be withheld! Therefore we must be careful in what we proclaim. **We must share the gospel as accurately as we can for this is a message that we don't**

want to get wrong either, for this message is the means in which God saves sinners! Don't mess up the message.

## **THE GOSPEL PROPER**

### **SLIDE: THE MESSAGE PROPER**

There are 4 main elements that are part of a Gospel presentation

**GOD, MAN, CHRIST, RESPONSE**

## **1] GOD is HOLY**

### **THE GOOD NEWS HAS A SOURCE: GOD**

*Who made us and whom are we accountable?*

#### **i. God is the eternal creator and king.**

Gen 1:1, Acts 17:24-27, Neh 9:6, Rev 4:11, Col 1:16, Gen 2:7, Gen 2:27, Isa 43:6-7, 43:21

#### **ii. God is the righteous judge.**

Exo 34:6-7, Isa 6:3, Rev 4:8-11, Hab 1:13, Ps 14:17, Jas 1:13, 1 Pet 1:16, Ex 20:2-3, Ps 24:3

## **2] MAN is a SINNER**

### **b. MAN is a sinner.**

#### **i. You were created to worship God, but have rebelled.**

Rom 1:18-23, Rom 3:10-18, Isa 53:6, 64:6

#### **ii. You are guilty and therefore deserve justice.**

1 Kg 8:46, Is 59:2, Ezek 18:4, Rom 6:23, Matt 10:28, Matt 7:22-23, Rev 20:15

#### **iii. You will physically & spiritually die.**

Eph 2:1, Jas 4:4, Ps 144:4, Heb 9:27, Rev 20:11-15

## **THE GOSPEL COMES WITH BAD NEWS**

How can this problem be solved?

### **3] SLIDE: JESUS IS THE SAVIOR**

What is God's solution to our problem?

**i. God loved us and sent His Son, who took on flesh, lived a sinless life, died in place of sinners, rose from the dead, and now reigns as King.**

**Jn 3:16, Rom 5:8-10, Rom 6:23, 2 Cor 5:21, 1 Jn 1:22, Phil 2:5-12, Isa 53:5, Gal 3:13, Lk 24:46-47, Acts 17:24-34**

### **4] YOU MUST RESPOND**

**i. Reject (Be leaving it)**

Acts 17:32-34, Heb 11:6, 1 Thes 4:8

**ii. Repent (Believing it)**

Jn 1:12, Rom 10:9-10, Jn 3:16-19, Mk 1:15, Lk 13:3, Act 3:19, Isa 45:22, Phil 2:10-11, Matt 11:28-30

### **SLIDE: ACTS 17 CASE STUDY**

The Apostle Paul provides a good model on proclaiming the Gospel to our post-Christian, most-modern, secular humanist, atheist/agnostic culture.

**DISCUSSION: How is his presentation different from say, Acts 2? Acts 7?**