

Sermon Notes
Good News Church
“Good News 101 – Basic Essentials of Faith & GNC Vision, Mission, and Values”
Jesus, Our Only Hope
Drue Warner
9-21-25

“In a world of bad news, everyone needs Good News.”

VARIOUS THOUGHTS

- **In the midst of the tragedies of these past weeks, how and where do we find hope?** A: We find hope in the fact that God can change hearts.
- **How do we respond? What do we do?** A: We love, show kindness, share truth, express beauty to those around us, and if given the opportunity, especially to our enemies.
- **Radicalized** - We have been radicalized by God.
 - *“And here is where the scandal of grace breaks in. Abel’s blood cried out for vengeance. Christ’s blood cries out for mercy (Hebrews 12:24). The Judge Himself stepped down from the bench, bore the wrath, and died in the place of guilty men. The very One who will judge us is the only One who can save us.” – Jeremiah Knight (“When Blood Cries Out”)*

Overview

1. Why are we here? (Purpose / Vision) – **With so many churches, is our church really necessary?**
2. What are we all about? (Mission)
3. **What do we believe? (Beliefs)**
4. What do we do? (Behaviors)
5. What is the Good News? (Motivation)

Last Week...

- **Vision** – *“to experience and express LOVE from God and to others.”*
 - **Verse** – The verse that undergirds our vision is, *Galatians 5:6b, “The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.”*
- **Mission** – Our mission is *“to connect with people and build relationships through community workshops, neighborhood-focused ministry, serving local needs, mentoring, and worship.”*
 - **FOR FUN:** *If you HAD to lead a workshop to teach people how to do something, what would be the workshop that you’d lead?*

THE STORY

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| ▪ Creation (Goodness) | God made it all. |
| ▪ Fall (Rebellion) | We lost it all. |
| ▪ Redemption (Sacrifice / Ransom) | Jesus did it all. |
| ▪ Salvation (Restoration / Adoption) | We get it all. |
| ▪ Sanctification (Beautification process) | God will grow us all. |
| ▪ Glorification (Beautification completion) | God will restore it all (to full glory). |

CHURCH CHAT - What is the Good News?

G.R.A.C.E.

GNC BELIEFS

1. I'm really broken and I need help. (DEPRAVITY)
2. **Jesus is perfect and He is my help. (DEITY)**
3. **Jesus is the only way to healing in my relationship with God. (EXCLUSIVITY)**
4. The Holy Spirit is my power to live as a follower of Jesus.
5. God calls me to submit to His authority and to serve His Church

THIS WEEK

2. / 3. Jesus is perfect, and He is my only help for healing in my relationship with God.

I'm broken and I need help, but God... sent...

JESUS

Savior Shepherd Rescuer Redeemer Ransom Lamb
Lion Lord Friend of sinners
Suffering Servant
Son of Man
Son of God
God

How you respond to Jesus affects everything.

US - "Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the Book of the Law." - Galatians 3:10b, Deuteronomy 27:26

JESUS - "Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us." - Galatians 3:13a

CHANGED LIFE - "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." - Galatians 2:20

"It is not just that God loves the whole world. He loves you. He gave himself on the cross for you and me. He died for you. If you had been the only person in the world, Jesus would have died for you. It is as personal as that. God's love for you is unconditional, wholehearted and continual. There is nothing

you can do to make God love you more and there is nothing you can do to make God love you less.”
- BiOY, Day 259 (9-16-25), Galatians 2:20

ADOPTED CHILDREN OF GOD

“God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, “Abba, Father.” So you are **no longer a slave, but God’s child.**” - Galatians 4:6-7a

KNOWN BY GOD

“Formerly, when you did not know God, you were slaves to those who by nature are not gods. But now that you know God—or rather are **known by God**—how is it that you are turning back to those weak and miserable forces? Do you wish to be enslaved by them all over again?” - Galatians 4:4-8-9

Love Lusters at Calvary (from “Valley of Vision,” pg. 42)

At Calvary, grace removes my burdens and heaps them on thy Son, made a transgressor, a curse, and sin for me; Christ was
all anguish that I might be all joy,
cast off that I might be brought in,
trodden down as an enemy that I might be welcomed as a friend,
surrendered to hell’s worst that I might attain heaven’s best,
stripped that I might be clothed,
wounded that I might be healed,
made thirsty that I might drink,
tormented that I might be comforted,
made a shame that I might inherit glory,
entered darkness that I might have eternal light.

My Savior

wept that all tears might be wiped from my eyes,
groaned that I might have endless song,
endured all pain that I might have unfading health,
bore a thorny crown that I might have a glory-diadem,
bowed his head that I might uplift mine,
experienced reproach that I might receive welcome,
closed his eyes in death that I might gaze on unclouded brightness,
expired that I might forever live.

CONCLUSION

One day, every person will bow and declare that “Jesus Christ is Lord.”

“Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”
- Philippians 2:9-11

If you’re able to do that in this life, you have been a recipient of God’s amazing grace.

How do I know if I'm a Christian?

- **Can you proclaim that Jesus is Lord?** If you do, God has no doubt turned your heart of stone into a heart of flesh and made your dead heart, alive.
- "I want you to know that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus be cursed," and **no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit.**" - 1 Corinthians 12:3

We are broken and desperately in need of help, but Jesus is perfect and perfectly able to help us find healing in our relationship with God.

Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. If the Son has set you free, you are free indeed!

... and THAT'S Good News!