

Study #2: The Gospel (The Good News God has for us)

What is “the gospel”? This study is an overview of the gospel (the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all). The gospel is powerful and life changing!

***Review:** Group Discussion. Since the last study, what have you experienced in your relationship with God as you’ve spent time in his Word? What have you experienced spiritually as you’ve spent time praying to him? What have you experienced spiritually in your walk with God as you’ve participated in a group setting (a church service, a midweek service, a small group, a fellowship time, a service event, etc.)

1. The Power of the Gospel: Rom. 1: 16, 1 Cor. 1:18

2. Overview of the Gospel, Part 1 (1 Cor. 15: 1-4)

A- vs. 1 The “gospel” (*euangelion*) is the Biblical term for the work of Christ which means “good news”. Why do you think God labels his Son’s death-burial-resurrection as “good news”? Why do you think we need “good news”?

B- vs. 2 “by this gospel you are saved.” What do you think it means to be “saved”? **(Read 1 Tim. 2:3-6)** The scriptures declare that all people are lost, spiritually speaking, and in need of God’s provision of Salvation. (*Acts 4:12, John 3: 36, Rom. 3:23*)

C- The Gospel Message- vs. 3-4 (Who Jesus is, and What He has done)

- * Jesus is the Christ (the Anointed one, the Messiah, God-in-the-flesh, Lord) (*Is. 9:6*)

- (*Matt. 28:18*- Jesus has all authority in Heaven and on earth.)

- * Christ died for Sins according to the Scriptures. (*Is. 53:4-6*)

- * Christ was buried. (*Is. 53:9*)

- * Christ was Raised from the Dead. (*Is. 53:11*)

3. The Gospel is Preached. (Peter) (Acts 10: 34-43)

A- vs. 36 Jesus is the Messiah, Lord of All. (What does it mean to be “Lord”?)

B- vs. 38 Jesus proved his Messiahship by his life, miracles, and deeds

C- vs. 39. Apostles were eyewitnesses of everything.

D- vs. 39-40 Jesus was crucified, buried, raised from the dead and was seen by the apostles.

E- v. 42. We will be judged by Jesus at the last day.

F- vs. 43. Forgiveness of sins is received by those who respond to the gospel.

4- Peter Teaches How to *Respond* to the Gospel. Acts 2: 36-41

A) vs. 36 Jesus is now proven to be both Lord and Messiah (Christ) through his sinless life and his death-burial-resurrection.

B) vs. 37 The people were “cut to the heart”; had remorse that they had killed their Messiah.

C) vs. 38 The people who believed the message (faith) **were directed to repent** (change of mind and heart about sin and make Jesus Lord) and to be baptized (immersed) in the name of Jesus for the forgiveness of sins, and they were promised to be sealed with the indwelling of the Holy Spirit (*Eph. 1:13*).

D) vs. 39 The gospel promise (faith-repentance-baptism for the forgiveness of sins in the name of Jesus Christ) is the same today (“for those who are far off”) as in their day. This promise comes with a warning to be saved from this corrupt generation (v. 40).

F) vs. 41 About 3000 **responded** to the gospel message that day with faith by repenting and being baptized in the name of Jesus. Responding to the gospel through faith and repentance is powerful! (*Acts 3:19*)

5- Paul Teaches How to *Participate* in the Gospel. Romans 6: 1-10

A) vs. 3- Those who were baptized **participated** in the gospel **by dying** to sin (Rom. 6: 8) during their baptism. Repentance (a radical change of mind and heart) includes dying to sin in our lives. It is a mindset and a heart orientation. Vs. 6- Our old self is crucified when we are baptized by faith in his death-burial-resurrection.

B) Vs. 4- Those who were baptized **participated** in the gospel **by being buried** with Jesus. Jesus was killed for our sins and buried, and we *participate* in his burial by faith during baptism as we are immersed in water (*Acts 8: 36-39*) through faith in Jesus and his death, burial, resurrection.

C) Vs. 5- Those who were baptized into Christ **will participate in his resurrection** (Rom. 8:11) one day. Just as we participate in his death, burial, and resurrection by faith during our baptism, one day we will participate in his resurrection from the dead just as he was resurrected. We are also resurrected to a new life (v. 6).

D) **Rom. 8:13 Ongoing participation in the Gospel after baptism.** By the Spirit we continue to **participate** in the gospel after baptism by putting to death the misdeeds of the body (this is participation in his death-the Cross)

E) **Rom. 8:14**, Having participated by faith in the death-burial-resurrection of Jesus through baptism we now **participate** in the life of Christ (his resurrected life) as we are empowered and led by the Spirit of God as his children. Christians have resurrection power living within them! **Read Eph. 3:20 (His Power within us!)**

Application: Have you **responded** Biblically to the gospel? Are you **participating** in the gospel in your daily life in Christ? (by both putting to death the misdeeds of the body, and living in resurrection power by his Spirit)

Prayer: Lord we thank you for the gospel! Thank you for sending your Son to die for sins, to be buried, and to be resurrected from the dead according to the scriptures. Thank you for the spiritual victory over sin promised to us when we participate in the gospel through faith, repentance, and baptism in the name of Jesus. Help us die daily to sin, and help us live daily by his powerful spirit.