

What is the Gospel? User Guide

The Tools

1. Gospel Tracts:

Gospel tracts are cards that have the Gospel message printed on them. We have two different sizes available (full-size and small). You can use the tracts in any number of ways. They are great for door-to-door evangelism, passing out to people at events or during everyday life, and leaving in places where people will find them.

The tracts are also designed to serve as an outline to help you verbally share the Gospel with others. After sharing the Gospel, you should leave the tract with the person and encourage them to visit knowthegospel.net (it is printed on the tract).

If the person receives Christ as Savior, invite them to join you at your church and talk to your pastor about helping to disciple the new believer. Remember, Sunday School is a great place for new believers to grow! Visit baptistpublishinghouse.com to learn more about various discipleship resources such as "Disciple Way" and "Our Doctrine."

2. Gospel Website:

knowthegospel.net is our website that is designed to communicate the Gospel clearly and provide new believers with a Bible study and help finding a church.

We've built a website that gives fuller explanation of the Gospel. This website also explains what a person should do after being saved.

To help prevent new believers from "slipping through the cracks," we have provided a way for them to request help finding a BMA church to attend and a Bible study to help them mature as new believers.



**What is
the Gospel?**

The Gospel explained:

1. God is holy.

God is perfectly good and cannot approve of evil.

"There is none holy as the Lord for there is none beside thee: neither is there any rock like our God." (1 Samuel 2:2)

2. People are sinners.

All people sin. Some common sins are lying, lust, stealing, using God's name as a curse word, unbelief in God, etc.

Sin is also failing to do what is good such as loving God and others.

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23)

3. God must punish sin.

This is the bad news: "The wages of sin is death." (Romans 6:23a)

We all deserve God's judgment.

God is loving, but His perfect goodness demands that He punish sin.

"But your iniquities [sins] have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear." (Isaiah 59:2)

Want to learn more
about the Gospel?
knowthegospel.net



4. Jesus died in our place.

This is the good news: "but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 6:23b)

The punishment of death that we deserve was taken by Jesus Christ on our behalf. Jesus freely died on the cross and came back to life. This is important because it proves that Jesus Christ is God and has the authority to forgive our sins.

"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)

"The Son of Man [Jesus] has power on earth to forgive sins." (Matthew 9:6)

5. We are saved by turning to Jesus Christ in faith.

We are only saved by turning away from sin (repenting) and trusting in Jesus Christ as Lord. There is no other way to be saved.

"For by grace are you saved through faith, and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God. Not of works, lest any man should boast." (Ephesians 2:8-9)

"Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.'" (John 14:6)

The Method

1. Door-to-Door Visitation (Best for full-size tract):

Gather a group to do outreach (Sunday evenings are a great time).
Break up into teams of two or three and visit homes near your church.

When someone answers the door, say something like this:

"Hello, My name is _____ and I go to _____ church. We are visiting our neighbors to see if there is anything we can pray for them about. Is there anything we can pray about for you?"

The person may or may not desire prayer.

If they have a prayer need, be sure to write it down. Also, make a note of their name and address (This will be helpful for any follow-up visits). Assure them that your church will pray for them.

Ask the person if you may ask them a question. If they decline, kindly leave. If they are okay with being asked a question, ask them "Do you know what the Gospel is?"

This is the perfect opportunity to begin working through the Gospel tract. You can use the tract as an outline or script to help you present the Gospel clearly. After you share the Gospel, ask them if they would like to begin following Jesus. You may pray with them or spend some time talking. Leave the tract with them and encourage them to come to your church.

When your outreach group is finished, reassemble and share your results with one another. It is during this time that you may pray for the requests of the people who were visited.

You may decide to do a follow-up visit in a week or two. Perhaps you can bring them Bible and a Sunday School book and encourage them become part of your Sunday School class.

Did you know that asking, "What is the Gospel?" (instead of "Are you going to Heaven? or "Are you saved?") requires people to think through what they believe? This prevents them from giving a quick "yes" or "no" answer and helps to facilitate evangelistic conversations.

2. Other ways to use: (Use either full-size or small tract)

- Pass them out to people
- Give to church visitors
- Leave in places to be found (don't litter)
- Give one to your waiter/waitress (along with a good tip)
- Pass out at festivals and events
- Send one in a letter to your neighbors or church visitors
- Give to classmates or coworkers
- Leave on business card bulletin boards
- Include in a snack basket for local businesses or schools
- etc.



Tips and Suggestions

1. When passing out Gospel tracts in a public place, you may ask people "Did you get one of these yet?" This is a good way to "break the ice" and give them a tract.
2. When knocking on doors, it is always best to take a few steps back after knocking. This will help people to not feel intimidated when answering their door.
3. If someone has a doorbell, ring it instead of knocking. Police typically do not ring doorbells, so if you knock rather than ringing the doorbell it may scare people away from answering the door.
4. It is wise to stay in groups of 2 or 3 when visiting. There is safety in numbers.
5. If you give a tract to your waiter or waitress, leave a good tip too. For reference, a good tip is generally considered to be about 20% of your bill.
6. If you decide to leave tracts in random places, do it well. Avoid littering or being a nuisance. Use discretion when taking this approach.
7. Make sure to keep a record of homes you visit during outreach visits. It is helpful to designate someone in your outreach group to write down notes about each person you visit. Be sure to note the person's name and address, prayer requests, whether they need a Bible, and if they seem like candidates for a follow-up visit.
8. Consider what the best time is for outreach in your town. Sunday evening is a very good time. Some churches may choose to designate each 5th Sunday night for outreach.
9. Make sure Gospel tracts are readily-available to people in your church. Encourage them to use the tracts throughout the week.
10. Use **knowthegospel.net** as part of your church's ministry. Put the link on your church's website or business cards, tell your church members about it, share it on social media, inform your student ministry about it, etc. This website was created to be used by anyone! There is no copyright or restrictions on sharing the content.

