

“But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God.”

John 1:12 NLT

“He has made us what we are. He has created us in Christ Jesus to live lives filled with good works that he has prepared for us to do.”

Ephesians 2:10 God's Word

“I try to run into God’s arms and give myself to His embrace, but I am holding lots of stuff, and it gets in the way.”

- Ruth Haley Barton

A simple message from God can cut through distractions, stabilize the soul, and help us to follow Jesus faithfully.

THE SIMPLE GOSPEL

JOHN 1:12
EPHESIANS 2:10

Humanity was created to flourish by consistently experiencing a healthy and intimate relationship with God and with each other, and by fulfilling its divine purpose through an empowered cooperation with the Holy Spirit.

Genesis 1:27; John 15:15, 13:34-35; Ephesians 4:2-3, 2:10;
Philippians 2:13; Acts 1:8

Pure goodness and innocence are lost when self-centeredness and selfishness are awakened through deception and lies; creating shame, fear, blame, and separation from God.

Genesis 3:1-5, 7, 10, 12, 23-24; Isaiah 59:2; Luke 5:32; 1 Peter 2:24

**“And all of my sorrows, I’d just wash them down.
It’s the only peace I’ve ever found.
All of this drinking and smoking is hopeless, but it
feels like it’s all that I need.
Something inside of me’s broken.
I hold on to anything that sets me free.
I’m a lost cause.”**

“Save Me” by Jelly Roll

God is with humanity and He makes covenants with them, promising them blessings and restoration as He did in the Garden of Eden.

Matthew 1:23; Genesis 9:8-11, 12:2-3, 17:2-4; Exodus 19:5-6; 2 Samuel 7:12-16; Revelation 22:1-3

Humanity lives in a polytheistic society that is filled with idolatry, deadly human sacrifice, and attempts to appease many gods.

Exodus 20:3-5; 1 Kings 18:21; Jeremiah 7:31; 2 Kings 17:17; 1
Corinthians 8:5-6; Acts 17:22-23, 19:19

God chose the Jews to be a holy people, a kingdom of priests, and a witness to the world, showing what it means to live under God's rule through humble, servant leaders.

Deuteronomy 7:6; Exodus 19:6; Isaiah 49:6; Micah 6:8;
1 Kings 3:9; Mark 1:15

The Jews have a history of faithfulness and unfaithfulness, leading to judgment and captivity; but God always promises restoration through a coming Messiah.

Judges 2:18-19; Jeremiah 3:6-8, 25:11, 29:10-11; Isaiah 9:6-7;
2 Kings 17:20;

Jesus Christ, God in human form, came to destroy sin, defeat the devil, unite Jews and Gentiles as one community under God, embody God's kingdom, and choose humans to be God's dwelling place filled with the Holy Spirit.

1 John 3:8; Hebrews 2:14-15; Ephesians 2:14-16, 22; Luke 17:20-21; 1 Corinthians 3:16, 6:19-20

Humans are called to live in close friendship and reverence with God, leading to a humble, confident life of service to others, sharing and living the gospel, spiritual formation, and using authority in God's kingdom to benefit self and others.

James 4:8; Proverbs 9:10; Philippians 2:3-4; 2 Corinthians 3:4-6;
Matthew 28:19-20; Romans 1:16; Colossians 3:16; Luke 10:19

Humans are to be spiritual children who live as one with God, within His glory, bringing hope, making peace, and serving as ambassadors of reconciliation.

Romans 15:13, Matthew 5:9, 2 Corinthians 5:18-20

“Put on your new nature, and be renewed as you learn to know your Creator and become like him.”

Colossians 3:10 NLT

— THE SIMPLE GOSPEL —

In summary:

- 1. Admit your desire and need for Christ.**
- 2. Accept His love and forgiveness by putting your hope in Him.**
- 3. Have friendships that contribute to your maturation and growth as a child of God.**
- 4. Serve others and share the gospel.**