



BEAUTY OF EVANGELISM

GROUP SERIES

WEEK 3 – WHAT IS THE GOSPEL?

Big Idea: The gospel is good news

Ice Breaker:

Consider these questions:

- What is some of the best news you have ever received? (Birth of a child, cancer-free, acceptance to college, that job offer, etc.)
- How did you respond or react?
- How do you typically respond to bad news?

Watch Video:

As a group, watch this week's video *The gospel is good news*

Into The Word:

- Read 1 Corinthians 15:1-8:

"Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, 2 and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. 3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, 5 and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. 6 Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. 7 Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. 8 Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me."

Ask:

- What is the gospel?
- Why is it of first importance?
- What does it look like for the Christ follower to "hold fast to the word"?
- Read Ephesians 2:1-10:

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins 2 in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— 3 among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. 4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even when

we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— 6 and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”

Ask:

- What does this passage teach us about a life without Christ as Savior?
- Why are verses 4-5 such big deals? How does that make you feel?
- What does it mean that we have been saved by grace through faith?
- In light of the gospel, how should we live?

Putting Into Practice:

The gospel is that Jesus Christ, the perfect Son of God, has come and lived a life without sin, that He has laid down His perfect life by dying on the cross for the forgiveness of our sins, and that He was buried and raised from the grave counting victory over death. This is good news, this is something that should encourage and excite us! We were sinners, separated from God because of our rebellion, and Christ saved us. We were dead and He made us alive. We were lost but now have been found. We were blind but now see. We were broken but now healed and restored. The gospel is good news, it is the best news!

- Why is it important for us to proclaim the gospel not simply as news but as good news?
- Whom will you proclaim this good news to this week? Whom do you know that needs to hear this good news?
- How will you hold fast to God’s Word this week?

Prayer:

Close out your group session with a time of praising God, thanking Him for the good news of the gospel. Celebrate and worship Him as a group through a time of prayer, thanking Him for saving you from sin and death. Ask God to strengthen you with this Good News and to embolden you to share it with others. Pray, by name, for the people you will share the Good News with in the coming days, asking God to open their hearts to the truth of Him.

