

The Gospel



Jesus
came



Jesus
died



Jesus was
buried



Jesus
rose



Jesus is
returning

The Power of God for Salvation

(Romans 1:16)

A study to better prepare a Christian to share the Gospel

Lessons compiled by Kevin Ziegler

Also thanks to Larry West and Kendall Faull for contributions to this study.



Lesson 1 – What is the Gospel?

- Greek word which means “good news” εὐαγγέλιον
- Word “**Gospel**” appears 99 times in 94 verses in New American Standard Bible
- Jesus preached the **Gospel**
 - Matthew 4:23
 - Matthew 9:35
 - Mark 1:14
- **Gospel** needs to be preached to the whole world
 - Matthew 24:14
 - Mark 13:10
 - Mark 16:15
- Beginning of the **Gospel**
 - Mark 1:1
- Philip preached the **Gospel**
 - Acts 8:25
 - Acts 8:40
- Paul and Barnabas preached the **Gospel**
 - Acts 14:7, 15, 21 (“they” is identified in Acts 13:50)
- Peter preached the **Gospel**
 - Acts 15:7
- Paul was set apart for the **Gospel**
 - Romans 1:1
- Paul was eager to preach the **Gospel**
 - Romans 1:15
- Paul was unashamed of the **Gospel**
 - Romans 1:16
- Permission to pay those who preach the **Gospel**
 - I Corinthians 9:14
- Under compulsion to preach the **Gospel**
- I Corinthians 9:16
- Do all things for the sake of the **Gospel**
 - I Corinthians 9:23
- The **Gospel** which you received and which you stand
 - I Corinthians 15:1
- There are false **Gospels**
 - II Corinthians 11:4
 - Galatians 1:6-11
- Truth of the **Gospel** remains in you
 - Galatians 2:5
- **Gospel** preached to Abraham
 - Galatians 3:8
- **Gospel** is truth of salvation to be listened to
 - Ephesians 1:13

The GOSPEL – *Power of God for Salvation*



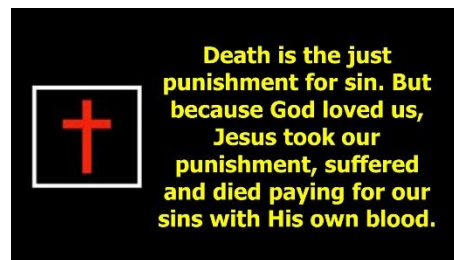
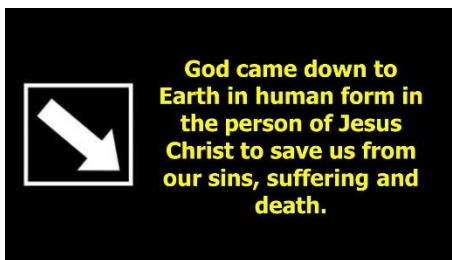
- **Gospel** is part of the armor of God
 - Ephesians 6:15
- **Gospel** is made known with boldness
 - Ephesians 6:19
- **Gospel** is something to participate in
 - Philippians 1:5
- **Gospel** is something to defend and to confirm
 - Philippians 1:7
 - Philippians 1:16
- Our conduct is tied to the **Gospel**
 - Philippians 1:27
- Hope within the **Gospel**
 - Colossians 1:5
 - Colossians 1:23
- **Gospel** was preached with power, Holy Spirit, and full conviction
 - I Thessalonians 1:5
- Preach the **Gospel** to please God
 - I Thessalonians 2:4
- Preach the **Gospel** and live the life
 - I Thessalonians 2:8-9
- The **Gospel** is something to be obeyed
 - II Thessalonians 1:8
 - I Peter 4:7
- Called through the **Gospel**
 - II Thessalonians 2:14
- The **Gospel** is glorious
 - I Timothy 1:11
- The **Gospel** abolished death
 - II Timothy 1:10
- The **Gospel** is about Jesus' death and resurrection
 - II Timothy 2:8
- The **Gospel** is eternal
 - Revelation 14:6
- **Gospel** defined – death, burial and resurrection of Jesus
 - I Corinthians 15:1-4





Lesson 2 – The Need for the Gospel


- Why do we need the *Gospel*?
 - **SIN PROBLEM**
 - It all started in the Garden of Eden
 - Genesis 2:16-17
 - Genesis 3:1-6
 - Intent of the heart continually evil!
 - Genesis 6:5
 - There is no one who does good!
 - Psalm 14:1-3
 - Not one righteous!
 - Ecclesiastes 7:20
 - The heart of a man is deceitful!
 - Jeremiah 17:9
 - All evil things proceed from within the man!
 - Mark 7:20-23
 - John 3:19-21
 - We are all under sin!
 - Romans 3:9
 - All have sinned!
 - Romans 3:23
 - Jesus took care of our **SIN PROBLEM**




- **GRAVE (DEATH) PROBLEM**
 - It all goes back to the Garden of Eden
 - Genesis 2:16-17
 - Genesis 3:17-19
 - God kept His word against Adam
 - Genesis 5:5
 - Days flee away
 - Job 9:25
 - Our flesh may fail
 - Psalm 73:26




- Days are limited
 - Psalm 90:10
- Days wither like grass
 - Psalm 102:11
- There is a time to die
 - Ecclesiastes 3:2
- Return as we came
 - Ecclesiastes 5:15
- The living know they will die
 - Ecclesiastes 9:5
- Wages of sin is death
 - Romans 6:23
- Prevented to serve by death
 - Hebrews 7:23
- Appointed unto man to die
 - Hebrews 9:27
- Days are like a vapor
 - James 4:14
- Jesus took care of our **GRAVE PROBLEM**



After Jesus died and was buried in the tomb, He physically resurrected on the third day proving His power over sin and death forever.

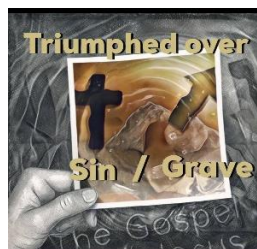


Jesus appeared to His disciples thoroughly proving His resurrection and then ascended into heaven to reign as our Lord and Savior.



Jesus is patiently waiting for sinners to repent, but He will return and take to heaven with Him those who believe and obey the Gospel of Christ.

- So, Jesus took care of both our **SIN & GRAVE PROBLEMS**





Lesson 3 – Restoring the Priority of the Gospel

- *I Corinthians 15:1-3*
- There is Priority in the Gospel because of the **IMPORTANCE** of the Gospel
 - Five important characteristics of the Gospel:
 - Gospel is to be **preached**
 - Gospel is to be **received**
 - Gospel is something we **stand upon**
 - Gospel brings **salvation**
 - Gospel is **conditional**
- *I Corinthians 15:3-4*
- There is Priority in the Gospel because of the **DEFINITION** of the Gospel
 - Death
 - Burial
 - Resurrection of Jesus
 - *The Gospel in a nutshell! This is the good news that our world needs!*
- *I Corinthians 15:5-8*
- There is Priority in the Gospel because of the **CONFIRMATION** of the Gospel
 - Cephas
 - The twelve
 - More than five hundred brethren at one time
 - James
 - All the apostles
 - Paul
- *I Corinthians 15:8-11*
- There is Priority in the Gospel because of the **POWER TO CHANGE** of the Gospel
 - So we preached
 - So you believed
- *I Corinthians 15:12-19*
- There is Priority in the Gospel because of the **CONNECTION OF FAITH** to the Gospel
 - No resurrection then Christ did not rise
 - If Christ did not rise, our preaching and our FAITH are in vain
 - We are false witnesses if the dead are not raised
 - Our FAITH is WORTHLESS! We are still in our sins!
 - Those who have died have perished!
 - We are, of all men, most pitied!

The GOSPEL – *Power of God for Salvation*



- *I Corinthians 15:20-53*
- There is Priority in the Gospel because of the **CONNECTION OF THE RESURRECTION** to the Gospel
 - In Adam all die
 - In Christ we will be made alive
 - Our bodies will be sown perishable
 - Our bodies are raised imperishable!
- *I Corinthians 15:54-57*
- There is Priority in the Gospel because of the **VICTORY RECEIVED** through the Gospel
 - Death is swallowed up in victory
 - Victory is through our Lord Jesus Christ!
- *I Corinthians 15:58*
- ***Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord.***



Lesson 4 – Having the Right Tools to Share the Gospel

- *Lesson by Kendall Faull*

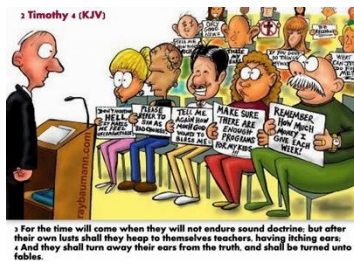
- Introduction
 - Make The Most of Opportunity
 - Colossians 4:5-6
 - Know How To Answer
 - I Peter 3:15
- **First Tool: Communicate Care (by Asking a Question)**
 - John 4:6-7
 - Acts 8:30-31
- **Second Tool: Understand Them**
 - Acts 8:35-36
 - Acts 19:1
- **Third Tool: Guide the Conversation**
 - John 4:19-20
 - Matthew 21:23-25





Lesson 5 – Making the Effort to Share the Gospel

- Four modern “evangelistic” methods that are **NOT** found in the New Testament
 - **#1 – Invitation to church services!**
 - **Result:** churches become more visitor oriented than believer oriented!



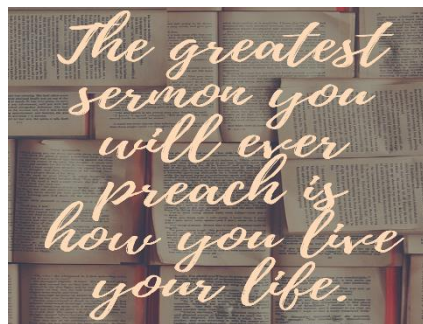
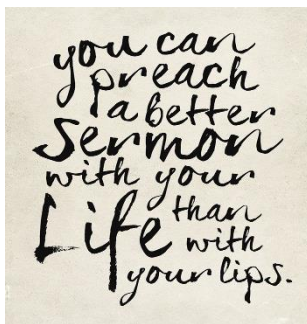
What we win them with
Is What we win them to!



- There is **NOT ONE** example of conversion in the book Acts, where someone invited someone to “church” – **they invited them to JESUS!**
- **In order to convert people to Christ, we MUST confront them with the Gospel**



- **#2 – My Christian life is my evangelism!**
 - **Result:** *the world see good people, but never learn about Jesus!!*



- Francis of Assisi said, “Preach the Gospel always, and if necessary, use words”
- There is **NOT ONE** example of conversion in the book Acts, where someone was saved simply by observing a Christian living a godly life!
- **In order to convert people to Christ, we MUST confront them with the Gospel**
- **#3 – That is the Preacher’s Job!**
 - **Result:** *only people won to Christ are the preacher’s friends!*



We wonder why some churches are dead!

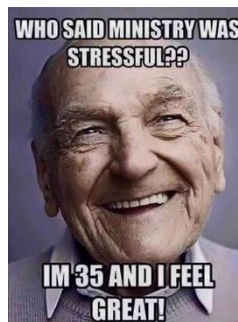
Asked why people attend church

- 86% - Because of a friend
- 6% - Because of an organized calling program
- 6% - Because of the preacher
- 2% because of advertising





- WAS A REAL LISTING FOR A PREACHER:** Candidate must **meet the New Testament elder requirements** and must **communicate the Gospel effectively in person and in writing for Sunday worship, Sunday school classes, and midweek bible studies**. Candidate must project a **strong presence in the pulpit, yet be able to exert a calming influence in tense situations**, an **extrovert for whom meeting new people and interacting with the community happens naturally**. Candidate must be a **positive person**, a **problem solver** able to **lead with energy and enthusiasm** to foster congregational participation in various ministries, and **be committed to assisting in VBS, youth activities, visitations at homes and in hospitals** when possible. Must **provide pastoral care including marriage counseling, weddings, funerals**, and be **technologically literate, able to communicate using church website, Facebook, smart phones, etc.**



- There is **NOT ONE** command in the New Testament, where the **ONLY** ones to evangelize are the preachers!
- In order to convert people to Christ, we MUST confront them with the Gospel!**
- #4 – Tell people how to get in on the Gospel, instead of telling them the Gospel!**
 - Result:** people are not won to Christ, but to a process!
 - Is this sharing the Gospel?*

Hear God's Word
 Matthew 7:24; Romans 10:17; I Corinthians 15:1-4
Believe God's Word (have faith in it)
 Romans 10:17; Hebrews 11:1-6
Repent (turning away from sin unto God)
 Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30
Confess Jesus Christ as the Christ, the Son of the living God
 Matthew 10:32, 16:16; Romans 10:8-13
Be immersed into Christ for the forgiveness of sins
 Acts 2:38, 22:16; Romans 6:3-6;
 Galatians 3:27; I Peter 3:21
Live the Christian life showing love and gratitude to God for His salvation,
 looking forward to His Son's return
 James 1:22-24, 2:20

- Or is this sharing the Gospel?*





- *One is sharing the Gospel – the other tells someone how to obey the Gospel!*
- There is **NOT ONE** example of conversion in the book Acts, where someone shared the **PROCESS** as a substitute of sharing the Gospel itself!!
- ***In order to convert people to Christ, we MUST confront them with the Gospel***

- **In order to convert people to Christ, we MUST confront them with the Gospel**
 - **ALL** Christians went about preaching the word!
 - Acts 8:4
 - Jesus said ***as you go*** make disciples and preach the Gospel!
 - Matthew 28:18-20
 - Mark 16:15-16
 - Paul said that faith comes from hearing!
 - Romans 10:17
 - Peter **TAUGHT** the Gospel on Pentecost!
 - Acts 2:14-41
 - Peter **TAUGHT** the Gospel in the Temple!
 - Acts 4:9-12
 - Philip **TAUGHT** the Gospel to Samaritans!
 - Acts 8:5-13
 - Philip **TAUGHT** the Gospel to the Ethiopian!
 - Acts 8:35-39
 - Ananias **TAUGHT** the Gospel to Saul of Tarsus!
 - Acts 9:6-19
 - Saul of Tarsus **TAUGHT** the Gospel to those in Damascus!
 - Acts 9:20-22
 - Peter **TAUGHT** the Gospel to Cornelius!
 - Acts 10:34-43
 - Paul **TAUGHT** the Gospel to the ladies at the river!
 - Acts 16:13-15
 - Paul **TAUGHT** the Gospel to the Philippian Jailer!
 - Acts 16:30-33
 - Paul **TAUGHT** the Gospel to the Athenians!
 - Acts 17:30-31
 - Paul **TAUGHT** the Gospel to Crispus!
 - Acts 18:8
 - **EVERY CONFRONTATION OF THE GOSPEL EVENTUALLY LED PEOPLE TO THE WATER!**
 - Acts 2:38, 41; 8:12-13; 38-39; 9:18 (22:16); 10:47-48; 16:15, 33; 18:8



Lesson 6 – How to Share the Gospel

Salvation Highway

Flow Chart

Life Care
Larry West, Director

Question #1 "What if the Lord were to come right now: would you know, for sure, nothing doubting, you would go to heaven?"			
"No!"		"I don't Know!"	"Yes!"
"Does it bother you?"		"I think so!"	↓
"No!"	"When I think about it!"	"I hope so!"	↓
"Remember I asked and want to talk about it!" <i>(Leave A Friend)</i>	"Can we think (talk) about it?"	"Yes!"	↓
	"No!"		
	"Remember I asked and want to talk about it!" <i>(Leave A Friend)</i>		
Question #2 "Are you a Christian?"			
"No!"		"I don't Know!" "I think so!" "I hope so!"	"Yes!" ↓
"Were you ever a Christian?"			
↓	"No!"	"Yes!"	1. How old were you? <i>Define Point of Salvation</i> 2. Where was it? 3. Was it on Sunday or during a revival? Was it at home? 4. What night was it? 5. How did you respond? 6. What did you do to get right with God? (Pray?) 7. Then you are telling me you were saved in the prayer, right? (Yes) 8. When did you join that church? 9. Oh, you were saved on Tuesday night and then baptized into that church Sunday morning, right?" (Yes) 10. Have you had other salvation experiences?
↓	"Do you love God?"		
↓	"No!"	"Yes!"	
↓	"Remember I asked and want to talk about it!" <i>(Leave A Friend)</i>	"Wonderful!"	
I didn't find the Lord that way!			
Question #3 "May I share with you how I found the Lord?" <i>(Move to the gospel presentation)</i>			



Presenting The Gospel One To One (The We Care Ministries Gospel Presentation)

"WHAT IF THE LORD WERE TO COME RIGHT NOW, DO YOU KNOW FOR SURE, NOTHING DOUBTING, THAT YOU'D GO HOME TO LIVE WITH HIM FOREVER?"

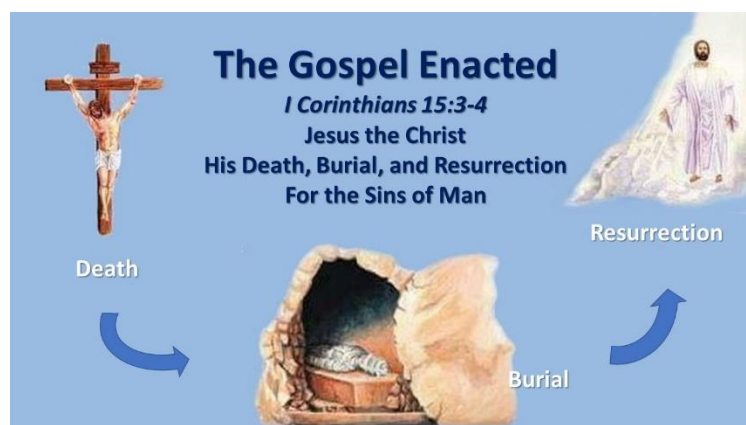
1. We can know how to have eternal life!
1 John 5:13
Then what has been written?
2. Is this a life-and-death statement?
John 8:24
Then who is Jesus?
3. Whose son is he?
Matthew 16:13-17
Is His being the Son of God all we must believe concerning His identity?
4. Jesus being the Son of God . . . is God. Notice Here:
John 1:1 John 1:14
When Jesus came to earth, did he leave His Godhead in heaven?
5. Notice that Jesus is 100% man and 100% God.
Colossians 2:9
6. God the Father calls His own Son God:
Hebrews 1:8
Who does Jesus Himself claim to be?
7. Jesus Himself claims to be the great "I Am".
John 8:58
So, we must believe Jesus is God, or we will die in our sins.
8. There are *three* "persons" in the Godhead.
Matthew 3:16-17
Jesus is one of them.
9. What is Jesus called here? Why is he qualified to be a mediator?
1 Timothy 2:5 Hebrews 4:15
Why do we need a mediator?
10. What has separated us from God?
Isaiah 59:2
What can save us?
11. What is the power of God to save us?
Romans 1:16
What is the gospel of Christ?
12. The Bible interprets itself:
1 Corinthians 15:1-4
Why did Jesus have to do each of these things to save us?
13. In His death we reach His blood.
Ephesians 1:7
How wonderful is his forgiveness?



14. He can present us how?
Jude 24
Jesus takes care of our sin problem with His death. Now why was he raised for us?
15. Watch how Jesus takes care of our grave problem.
1 Corinthians 15:20-23
16. In a nutshell, what two things does the gospel bring to us?
2 Timothy 1:10
Paul says it another way.
17. What can we be through Jesus' death?
What can we be through His life?
Romans 5:10
18. Must we confess Christ and believe the gospel to be saved?
Is this a life-and-death statement?
Romans 10:9
19. Must we change our lifestyles?
1 Corinthians 6:9
Ephesians 4:17 - 5:7
Galatians 5:19-26
What if we do not change?
20. Are these life-and-death statements?
Luke 13:3,5
To get in on the saving gospel what must we do?
21. What must we do to escape God's vengeance and everlasting destruction?
2 Thessalonians 1:7-9
How do humans "obey the gospel?"
22. Do you see the gospel here?
How do we get "into His death?"
Romans 6:3-6, 17-18
Why would God want us to get "into His death?"
23. Where does one actually become a Christian?
Galatians 3:26-27
24. If one becomes a Christian, will he face persecution?
John 15:20
25. What is the worst kind of persecution?
Luke 14:26-28
We need to count the cost.
26. Jesus commands commitment.
2 Peter 2:20-21
27. Please read these words and give God your answer.
Acts 22:16

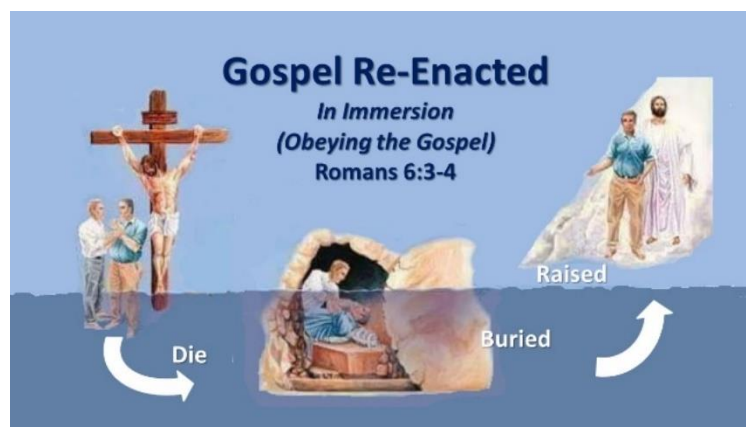


- *May I share with you how I found the Lord (Move to the Gospel Presentation)*
 - *We can know how to have eternal life!*
 - **#1 – I John 5:13**
 - Then, what has been written?
 - **#2 – John 8:24**
 - Isn't this a life and death statement? Then, who is Jesus?
 - **#3 – Matthew 16:13-17**
 - Whose Son is He? Is His being the Son of God all we must believe concerning His identity?
 - **#4 – John 1:1, 14**
 - Jesus being the Son of God. Notice here: When Jesus came to earth, did He leave the Godhead in heaven?
 - **#5 – Colossians 2:9**
 - Notice that Jesus is 100% man and 100% God
 - **#6 – Hebrews 1:8**
 - God the Father calls His own Son "God"! Who does Jesus Himself claim to be?
 - **#7 – John 8:58**
 - Jesus Himself claims to be the Great "I Am"! So we must believe Jesus is God, or we will die in our sins.
 - **#8 – Matthew 3:16-17**
 - There are THREE Persons in the Godhead. And Jesus is one of them!
 - **#9 – I Timothy 2:5; Hebrews 4:15**
 - What is Jesus called here? Why is He qualified to be a mediator? Why do we need a mediator?
 - **#10 – Isaiah 59:2**
 - What has separated us from God? What can save us?
 - **#11 – Romans 1:16**
 - What is the power of God to save us? What is the Gospel of Christ?
 - **#12 – I Corinthians 15:1-4**
 - The Bible interprets itself. Why did Jesus have to do each of these things to save us?





- **#13 – Ephesians 1:7**
 - In His death we reach His blood. How wonderful is this forgiveness?
- **#14 – Jude 24**
 - He can present us How? Jesus takes care of our sin problem with His death. Now why was He raised for us?
- **#15 – I Corinthians 15:20-23**
 - Watch how Jesus takes care of our grave problem.
- **#16 – II Timothy 2:10**
 - In a nutshell, what two things does the Gospel bring us? Paul says it another way:
- **#17 – Romans 5:10**
 - What can we be through Jesus' death? What can we be through His life?
- **#18 – Romans 10:9**
 - Must we confess Christ and believe the Gospel to be saved? Is this a life and death statement? Must we change our lifestyle?
- **#19 – I Corinthians 6:9-10; Ephesians 4:17-5:7; Galatians 5:19-26**
 - God requires a righteous lifestyle. What if we do not change?
- **#20 – Luke 13:3, 5**
 - Are these life and death statements? To get in on the saving Gospel, what must we do?
- **#21 – II Thessalonians 1:7-9**
 - What must we do to escape God's vengeance and everlasting destruction? How do we humans "obey the Gospel"?
- **#22 – Romans 6:3-6; 17-18**
 - Do you see the Gospel here? How do we get "into His death"? Why would God want us to get into "His death"?



- **#23 – Galatians 3:26-27**
 - Where does one actually become a Christian? If one becomes a Christian, will he face persecution?
- **#24 – John 15:20**
 - What is the worst kind of persecution?

The GOSPEL – Power of God for Salvation



- #25 – Luke 14:26, 28
 - Who will you love most? We need to count the cost.
- #26 – II Peter 2:20-21
 - Jesus commands commitment.
- #27 – Acts 22:16
 - Please read these words and give God your answer.



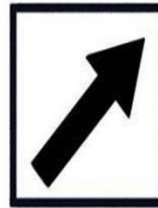
God came down to Earth in human form in the person of Jesus Christ to save us from our sins, suffering and death.



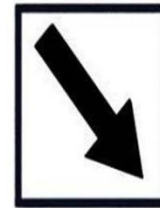
Death is the just punishment for sin. But because God loved us, Jesus took our punishment, suffered and died paying for our sins with His own blood.



After Jesus died and was buried in the tomb, He physically resurrected on the third day proving His power over sin and death forever.



Jesus appeared to His disciples thoroughly proving His resurrection and then ascended into heaven to reign as our Lord and Savior.



Jesus is patiently waiting for sinners to repent, but He will return and take to heaven with Him those who believe and obey the Gospel of Christ.



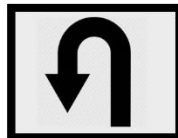
Hear the Gospel!

Faith comes by hearing the Gospel—the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus!
Matthew 7:24
Romans 10:17
I Corinthians 15:1-4



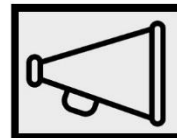
Believe the Gospel!

Without faith it is impossible to please God! Believe the message of the Gospel!
Mark 16:15-16
Acts 16:31
Romans 10:17
Hebrews 11:1-6



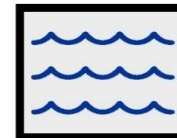
Repentance of our Sin!

The Lord desires all to come to repentance! God allows U-turns!
Mark 1:14-15
Luke 13:3
Acts 17:30



Confession of our Faith!

We confess with our mouth that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God!
Matthew 10:32; 26:16
Acts 8:37
Romans 10:8-13



Baptized into Christ!

Baptized into the Gospel, burying the old sinful man, buried into Christ, reborn into an immediate new life!
Acts 2:38; 22:16
Romans 6:3-6
I Peter 3:21

To study more on the Gospel, visit gospel.restorationplea.com. To obey the Gospel, contact Lakeport Christian Church, 10947 East State Road 79, Lakeport, FL 33471—863-946-1747—www.lakeportcc.com