

# Our Core Values: Gospel

Sunday, January 14, 2024 | Text: 1 Corinthians 15:1-4

**“We exist to glorify God by making disciples of all nations.”**

**Our Core Values: Worship, Gospel, Family, Mission**

**Main Idea: The Gospel is the Main Thing.**

## 1. What is the Gospel?

**1 Corinthians 15:1-4:** *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...*

**The Great Dilemma: our sinfulness and God’s holiness.**

- Man’s Sinfulness (Romans 3:22-23)
- God’s Holiness and Wrath (Hab. 1:13; Isa. 59:2; Col. 1:13)

**The motive for the gospel: God’s love and mercy** (1 Jn 4:7-8; 1 Jn 4:9-10; Rom. 3:25-26)

**The nature of the gospel: Grace** (Rom. 3:23-24; Eph. 2:8-9)

**The substance of the gospel: the person and work of Jesus Christ** (1 Cor. 15:1-8; 2 Cor. 4:1-6)

- Jesus’ **birth** (John 1:1; Mt. 1:20-21; Heb. 2:17; Phil. 2:5-8)
- Jesus’ perfect, sinless **life** (Heb. 4:15)
- Jesus’ **death** on the cross (Isa. 53:4-6; 2 Cor. 5:21; Col. 2:13-14)
- Jesus’ **resurrection** from the dead (Rom. 4:25; 1 Cor. 15:17)
- Jesus’ **ascension and return** (Mt. 24:30-31; Rev. 21:3-4)

## 2. Why is the Gospel so important?

**Romans 1:16:** *For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.*

| The Gospel   | Religion   |
|--|--|
| News about what Jesus has done for us  | Instructions about what we must do for God   |
| Elicits joy and gratitude  | Elicits fear and stress  |
| Sends messengers who spread the good news that our lives are now safe because of King Jesus’ victory | Sends commanders who tell people they must fight for themselves if they want to save their lives |

Through faith in Jesus Christ:

- 1) We have been saved from the *penalty* of sin because of Jesus’ life and death. (Past)
- 2) We are being saved from the *power* of sin because of Jesus’ resurrection and ascension. (Present)
- 3) We will be saved from the *presence* of sin because of Jesus’ return. (Future)

## 3. How should we respond to the Gospel?

Live in repentance and faith for the glory of God alone!

(Rom. 2:4; Gal. 2:20; Eph. 2:8–10; 1 Cor. 15:10; 2 Tim. 1:7; 2 Pet. 1:3; Col. 1:3–6)

**If you were to share a key insight from today’s sermon with a friend, what would you say in a sentence or two?**

**Discussion Questions:** Read these verses and point out 2-3 key points that summarize the passage: John 3:16-17; Romans 3:23; Ephesians 2:8-10. What is the Gospel? What is man’s great dilemma? What is God’s great dilemma? How is the Gospel good news? What are the primary elements of the Gospel? Why is the Gospel so important? What is the right response to the Gospel? How is our identity formed by the Gospel? How can we keep the Gospel the “Main Thing” in our daily lives? In our church?

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