

What is The Gospel?

Quotes and Verses to Remind and Encourage Our Hearts in Christ

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The most important question that is discussed in the membership conversation is the question, “What is the gospel?” Whether you understand the answer to that question or not, it’s usually a question that many of us have a hard time expressing in words. It’s our hope to help in your understanding and experience of the gospel, as well as, your ability to articulate to others who may ask you, “What is the gospel?”

The original Greek for the word “Gospel” means “Good News.” Probably the simplest and easiest way to define the “Good News” (i.e. Gospel) is, **“God doing for us what we could never do for ourselves.”**

Below are a few quotes and verses that may be helpful in understanding and explaining the Gospel (i.e. Good News).

The Gospel (Good News) in 5 Words:

CREATION - God made it all.

FALL - We lost it all.

REDEMPTION - Jesus did it all.

RESTORATION - We get it all.

CONSUMATION - Jesus will restore it all.

G.R.A.C.E.

Another way to answer the question, “What is the Gospel?” is by using the acronym G.R.A.C.E which stands for **God’s Riches At Christ’s Expense**. The essence of the Gospel is that salvation comes from God. While it is our responsibility to believe by faith the finished work of Jesus on our behalf (in His life, death, and resurrection), it’s God’s grace that gives us the faith to believe. Salvation is, from start to finish, a gift of God’s amazing grace.

So, the gospel can be explained in a simple and easy way by using the acronym G.R.A.C.E., which is:

Additional Gospel Bible Verses & Quote Resources

God made him (Jesus) who knew no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. – 2 Corinthians 5:21

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich. – 2 Corinthians 8:9

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins 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 - 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. But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved. – Ephesians 2:1-6

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast. – Ephesians 2:8-9

At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior. – Titus 3:3-6

*“We who are Jews by birth and not sinful Gentiles know that a person is not justified by the works of the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law, because by the works of the law no one will be justified.
– Galatians 2:15-16*

For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. – Colossians 1:13

And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness. – Romans 4:5

But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. – Romans 5:8

¹ Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, ² because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. ³ For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. – Romans 8:1-4

This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. – 1 John 4:9-10

Jesus answered, “The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent.” – John 6:29

Gospel Quotes

“God does not love sinners because they are attractive; sinners are attractive to God because he loves them.” - Martin Luther

“The Son of God became a man to enable men to become sons of God.” - C.S. Lewis

If you died today and stood before the throne of God, and He were to ask you, “Why should I let you into heaven?”, you could answer that question without even uttering one word. All you would need to do is to raise your arm and point to Jesus, because it’s by His work alone and His righteousness that we find favor with God. Our best works are filthy rags (Isaiah 64:6). *“Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to the cross I cling”* (from the hymn “Rock of Ages Cleft for Me”) and *“The only thing we contribute to our salvation is the sin that makes it necessary”* (William Temple). We are accepted, embraced, adopted, and loved by God, not by anything that we have done or will do, but by what Christ has done on our behalf. We are saved by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone, for God’s glory alone.

“The gospel message is not about performance and work (in what we do), but it is about acceptance and rest (in what Christ has done for us).” – Drue Warner

"The Gospel may be explained to little children (as well as to adults) in simplest fashion by declaring that '*Jesus took our spanking... and in exchange He gave us chocolate cake.*' At the cross, Jesus took upon Himself our punishment that we deserved. Not only that, but He gave us His perfect righteousness, so that now, when the Father looks upon us, He sees Jesus. We are hidden in the righteousness and love of Christ." – Drue Warner

"The only thing we contribute to our salvation is the sin that makes it necessary."

- William Temple (a bishop in the Church of England in the 1920's – 1940's)

"To be a Christian means to forgive the inexcusable, because God has forgiven the inexcusable in you." - C.S. Lewis

"To get Jesus, the only thing you need, is need." - Ray Cortese