Evangelism Study

There are so many methods to share the gospel, but do we truly understand the gospel well enough to share it off script? The goal of this study is to help us all be ready to share the gospel spontaneously no matter the circumstance.

Day 1 John 16:5 – 12 pg. 2

Day 2 John 3:1-21 pg. 7

Day 3 John 4:7-26 pg. 16

Day 4 Luke 18:18–30 pg. 24

Day 5 Your Personal Testimony pg. 35

Day 6 Your Turn (Write out your gospel presentation) pg. 37

In this study we will look at how Jesus Himself evangelized, looking at 4 distinct aspects of the Gospel Message:

- 1. Turning a conversation into a gospel conversation
- 2. God's Law and Sin
- 3. God's Righteousness
- 4. God's Judgment
- 5. God's Grace

Introduction:

When I was in my early thirties Ken and I were attending the Word of Faith Church, (health and wealth gospel, which isn't the gospel at all but that's for another time). I had a desire to see people saved and come to know the LORD, and at that time, I thought people got saved by repeating the sinner's prayer. But for the life of me I couldn't understand why people didn't change. Why did people stay in blatant sin after saying the sinner's prayer? Why did drug dealers still sell drugs after saying the sinner's prayer and why didn't I change but make excuses for my sins.

Then one day I was watching one of the "Left Behind" series and I heard the gospel clear as day; it was a big eye-opening experience. I truly understood the gospel. Being confronted with the gospel which is so much more than a simple prayer started me on a journey of studying the scriptures and searching out wise counsel.

Day 1 - John 16:5-12 Sin, Righteousness, and Judgment

John 16:8⁸ And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:

Imagine being asleep and suddenly someone turns on the light or you hear a loud sound which abruptly wakens you. How easy would it be to go back to sleep after this? Not very. The Holy Spirit comes to shine a bright light in the darkness to wake the world up from its slumber. Think of this as you work through this study.

Pray and let's read John 16:5-12 and answer the following questions.

John 16:5-12

⁵ But now I am going to him who sent me, and none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' ⁶ But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. ⁷ Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send Him to you. ⁸ And when He comes, He will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹ concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰ concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; ¹¹ concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged. ¹² "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.

1. Why was it to the disciple's advantage that Christ goes away?

- 2. What will the Helper do when He comes?
- 3. What will He convict the world about, concerning sin?
- 4. What will He convict the world about, concerning righteousness?
- 5. What will He convict the world about, concerning judgment?

Let's dig in:

Read John 15:26-27

"But when the ^[a]Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me. And you also will bear witness, because you have been with Me from the beginning.

Definitions

'To Testify' means to bear witness; give evidence. It can be used in a legal setting to mean giving <u>testimony</u> under oath.

The Strong's Dictionary defines [to] convict as to bring to the light, to expose, to find fault with, to call to account, to show one his faults. It can also mean to chasten.

1. Looking at John 15:26-27 and John 16:8, when the Helper, who is the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, comes what will He do? And what will we also do?

John Calvin writes, "He will convince the world; that is, he will not remain shut up in you, but; his power will go forth from you to be displayed to the whole world. He therefore promises to them a Spirit, who will be the Judge of the world, and by whom their preaching will be so powerful and efficacious, that it will bring into subjection those who formerly indulged in unbounded licentiousness and were restrained by no fear or reverence."

So through the Holy Spirit working in us we will testify of Jesus Christ by convicting or convincing the world of sin, righteousness and judgment.

Let's look at the Strong's Definition of sin, righteousness and judgment and answer some questions.

Sin - John 16:9 concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me; **Sin** means that which is done wrong, an offence, a violation of the divine law in

thought, feeling, speech, or in action whether it occurs by omission or commission.

1 John 3:4

Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness.

2. Looking at the definition above and 1John 3:4, how would you explain sin?

Righteousness - John 16:10 concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see Me no longer;

righteousness in a broad sense means a state of him who is as he ought to be, righteous, the condition acceptable to God. It is having integrity, virtue, purity of life, rightness, correctness of thinking feeling, and acting. In a narrower sense it means justice or the virtue which gives each his due. It is said to belong to God and Christ only.

Romans 3:21-24, 26 But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—²² the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,... ²⁶ It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Romans 10:3-4 For, being ignorant of the righteousness of God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. ⁴ For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

3. Looking at the above definition and the verses, how would you explain righteousness?

Judgment – John 16:11 concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

Judgement means a separating between right or wrong, a sentence of condemnation and punishment. God's judgment is that wicked men rejected the salvation Christ offered, and so of their own accord brought upon themselves misery and punishment. Judgment takes place by the entrance of the light into the world and the hatred which men have for this light, John 3:19.

John 5:22-24 ²² For the Father judges no one, but has given all judgment to the Son, ²³ that all may honor the Son, just as they honor the Father. Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him. ²⁴ Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment but has passed from death to life.

4. Using the definition for judgment and the verses, how would you explain judgment?

Practice:

John Wesley – "Before I preach love, mercy and grace, I must preach sin, law and judgment."

Now, looking at your own life how did the Holy Spirit convict you of sin, righteousness, and judgment to bringing you to the mercy of Christ Jesus?

Day 2 The Gospel Explained John 3:1-21

The gospel is the good news of Jesus Christ but what makes the good news good? Say three years ago I came to you and said, "I have the cure to COVID-19." You would look at me strangely and say, "ok", and keep walking, thinking something is wrong with that lady. But now if I come to you and say, "I have the cure to COVID-19", you would be excited, rejoicing, telling everyone you know. Why is that? It is because you understand that people have died from COVID-19. The good news became good because of your understanding of the bad news. My hope is that you will truly know how to articulate the gospel so people will understand the bad news. Then when they hear the good news, they will rejoice and tell others.

Read John 3:1-21 and answer the following questions.

3 Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ² This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." ³ Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." ⁴ Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" ⁵ Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶ That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' ⁸ The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

⁹ Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰ Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹ Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you^[I] do not receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.^[I] ¹⁴ And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.^[h]

¹⁶ "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸ Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹ And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. ²⁰ For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. ²¹ But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God."

Born

- 1) How did Nicodemus approach Jesus and what did he say to Jesus?
- 2) Here we see Christ turning the conversation, from what to what?
- 3) Born is repeated several times in this chapter, count the number of times born is repeated.
- 4) In vs 5 what must happen for a person to enter the kingdom of heaven?
- 5) What are two ways a person can be born?
- 6) What does vs 8 teach us about how the Holy Spirit moves?

Side Note: If the Holy Spirit goes wherever He pleases, like the wind blowing, why do we have people repeat a sinners prayer, as if that will get them into heaven? As we learned yesterday, why not allow the Holy Spirit to testify in us. Let's do what is pleasing to God.

Let's dig deeper, in Vs 5, Jesus says, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." Read Eze 36:25-27 below and answer the following questions. **Ezekiel 36:25-27** ²⁵ I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. ²⁶ And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ And I will put My Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in My statutes and be careful to obey My rules.

- 7) From Ezekiel, what is the work that God does to make one born again?
 - a)

b)

- C)
- d)
- e)
- f)
- g)

8) When God works in a person's heart, what will it cause a person to do?

It is God that changes our heart. Modern day evangelism likes to make a quick sale, repeat after me or what we call "easy believeism". "All you have to do is say you believe and I'll affirm that you are a Christian". However, it is God that changes our hearts and with that we will see evidence. The person whom God saves will be sensitive to God's commandments and their sin. They will want to obey and maybe even wrestle with doing what they know is right. So, we should speak the truth in love, by being honest about sin, righteousness, and judgment. Then tell of God's grace and the Holy Spirit will do whatever He pleases in the hearts of the people we share with. Remember as the wind blows so the Holy Spirit; we do not know what God will do, but we know what we are called to do and how to do it.

Believe

John 3:13-15 ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except He who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.^{[g] 14} And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the

wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in Him may have eternal life.

- 1. Circle and count how many times the word believe is repeated in John 3:1-21?
- 2. What do we learn about the Son of Man, vs 13?
- 3. What is Jesus saying about Himself?
- 4. How is Jesus to be lifted up?

Read Numbers 21:4-9 The Bronze Serpent

⁴ Then they journeyed from Mount Hor by the Way of the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; and the soul of the people became very discouraged on the way. ⁵ And the people spoke against God and against Moses: "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and our soul loathes this worthless bread." ⁶ So the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and many of the people of Israel died.

⁷ Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD that He take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people.

⁸ Then the LORD said to Moses, "Make a fiery serpent, and set it on a pole; and it shall be that everyone who is bitten, when he looks at it, shall live." ⁹ So Moses made a bronze serpent, and put it on a pole; and so it was, if a serpent had bitten anyone, when he looked at the bronze serpent, he lived.

1. Why did the LORD send fiery serpents?

2. How did the people of Israel approach Mosses, what did they realize, and what did they ask Mosses to do for them?

- 3. Once Israel confessed their sins what did God instruct Mosses to do and why?
- 4. How is the fiery serpent a foreshadowing of Jesus Christ?
- 5. Just as Moses lifted up the fiery serpent how are we to lift up the Son of Man?

This is a mirror of the gospel. We sinned, so God is storing up wrath against us in the day of judgment. We need to know our sins and repent. And place all our trust in Jesus Christ, believing we will live in Him.

Definitions

- a. **Believe** means to think to be true, to be persuaded of, to credit, place confidence in. This is used especially of the faith by which a man embraces Jesus, with a conviction, full of joyful trust, that Jesus is the Messiah the divinely appointed author of eternal salvation in the kingdom of God, conjoined with obedience to Christ.
- b. It can also mean the mere acknowledgment of one's existence.

Looking at John 3:16 and James 2:19, it points out two different ways to believe. Let's take a look.

- John 3:16 ¹⁶ For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.
- **James 2:19** ¹⁹ You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble!
- 1. What is the difference between the belief that is described in John 3:16 and the belief that is described in James 2:19?

One can believe in God's existence and still not have a firm belief in Jesus Christ, putting all their confidence in Him pledging their obedience to Christ and giving themselves up to Him. There is a big difference. So when someone says they believe in God they may not have a saving faith. But if they are placing all their confidence in Jesus Christ and giving themselves up to Jesus Christ in full obedience, then that is a saving faith. We want people to know what it truly means to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. It's not just one prayer, or an emotion, or even head knowledge. This is what we want to help people understand when sharing the gospel, what it means to truly believe in Jesus Christ.

Back to John 3:16-18 ¹⁶ "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸ Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

1. What happens if we do not believe in Jesus the way God commands us to believe in Him?

2. Yesterday we looked at sin. What is the sin that Jesus is speaking about in verses :15-18?

Judgment John3:19 -20 ¹⁹And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. ²⁰ For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed.

1. What is judgment?

2. Jesus says in Vs :20 for everyone who does evil hates the light. Why do they hate the light?

Yesterday we looked at judgment from John 16:11 which states that the ruler of this world is judged.

Let's dig in, read the verses, and answer the question.

- **1 John 3:8** ⁸ He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.
- John 8:44-45 ⁴⁴ You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies. ⁴⁵ But because I tell the truth, you do not believe me.
- John 12:43 ⁴³ for they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.
- Isa 30:9-11 ⁹ For they are a rebellious people, lying children, children unwilling to hear the instruction of the LORD;

¹⁰ who say to the seers, "Do not see,"

and to the prophets, "Do not prophesy to us what is right;

- speak to us smooth things,
- prophesy illusions,
- ¹¹ leave the way, turn aside from the path, let us hear no more about the Holy One of Israel."
- 3. Why are men judged, explain?
- 4. How does God view sinners?

Grace John 3:21. ²¹ But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God."

Definition

Grace is defined as the ground of our election to salvation. It is the good pleasure of God, that kindness by which God bestows favor upon the ill-deserving, and grants to sinners the pardon of their offences, commanding them to accept His eternal salvation through Christ.

1. In verse 21 what happens when one does what is truth?

2. From all that we learned from this chapter what must happen to someone for them to practice truth, what must a person do to be saved?

Mark 1:15 and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God ^[a]is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."

Day 3 Sin and the Law

Lower the Law, and you dim the light by which man perceives his guilt. This is a very serious loss to the sinner, rather than a gain; for it lessens the likelihood of his conviction and conversion ...I say you have deprived the gospel of its ablest auxiliary [most powerful weapon] when you have set aside the Law. You have taken away from it the schoolmaster that is to bring men to Christ...they will never accept grace till they tremble before a just and holy Law. Therefore the Law serves a most necessary and blessed purpose, and it must not be removed from its place. Charles Spurgeon

Read Luke 18:18-30 and answer the following questions.

Luke 18:18-30¹⁸ And a ruler asked him. "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ¹⁹ And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone. ²⁰ You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery, Do not murder, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother."²¹ And he said, "All these I have kept from my vouth." ²² When Jesus heard this, he said to him, "One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." ²³ But when he heard these things, he became very sad, for he was extremely rich. ²⁴ Jesus, seeing that he had become sad, said, "How difficult it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵ For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God." ²⁶ Those who heard it said, "Then who can be saved?" ²⁷ But he said, "What is impossible with man is possible with God." ²⁸ And Peter said, "See, we have left our homes and followed you." ²⁹ And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or wife or brothers or parents or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God, ³⁰ who will not receive many times more in this time, and in the age to come eternal life."

1. What question did the rich young ruler ask Jesus? How would you answer that question?

Would you answer the way Jesus answered or the way our modern-day evangelists would answer, saying, "Great, now repeat this prayer after me"? Then they welcome this poor person into Christ's church without giving them the understanding of why they are repenting or how God looks at sin. For this poor sinner their sins aren't very bad. After all, they aren't like Hitler, so they think. They lack the understanding of sin, God's righteousness, and judgment. Let's take a lesson from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

- 1. So how does Jesus answer the rich young ruler?
- 2. What do we call these commandments that Jesus gives him?
- 3. How does the rich young ruler respond?

Let's stop again and think about this. How would you respond? How would our modern-day evangelism respond? Most would say, "Yes! they got it! Now let's say the sinner's prayer." Sad to say there will be lots of people in hell who said the sinner's prayer. This should make us stop and weep.

Jesus response is much different. He truly loves this rich young ruler and presses him to go deeper.

Mark 10:21 ²¹ Then Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, "One thing you lack: Go your way, sell whatever you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, take up the cross, and follow Me."

4. What are the six action steps that Jesus gives to the rich young ruler?



No man is good except God

Let's take some time and dig a little more. The rich young ruler starts off by calling Jesus a good teacher, but Jesus quickly corrects him and says no man is good except God and then points him to the ten commandments. Let's take some time to investigate why.

Read the following verses and answer the questions.

Romans 3:20 For no one will be justified in his sight by the works of the law, because the knowledge of sin comes through the law.

Romans 7:7-8 What should we say then? Is the law sin? Absolutely not! On the contrary, I would not have known sin if it were not for the law. For example, I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, Do not covet. And sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, produced in me coveting of every kind. For apart from the law sin is dead.

5. In light of these verses in Romans why do you think Jesus quoted the ten commandments to the rich young ruler?

Galatians 3:24 Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

Galatians 2:19 For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God.

6. What is the purpose of the law?

Sell what you have and give to the poor

Mark 6:19-20 "Don't store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal. "But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves don't break in and steal.

Deuteronomy 5:6-7 'I am the LORD your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of ^[a]bondage. 'You shall have no other gods before Me.

- 7. What is this rich young ruler placing his trust in, and where should his trust be?
- 8. Why did Jesus ask him to sell all his possessions? What was the heart matter Jesus was getting at?
- 9. Since this rich young ruler is placing his trust in his earthly treasures is he guilty of breaking the first commandment, Deuteronomy 5:6-7? Why or why not?

Come, follow Me

Luke 9:23 Then he said to them all, "If anyone wants to follow after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross daily, and follow me.

Luke 9:57-62 As they were traveling on the road someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." Jesus told him, "Foxes have dens, and birds of the sky have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head." Then he said to another, "Follow me." "Lord," he said, "first let me go bury my father." But he told him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and spread the news of the kingdom of God." Another said, "I will follow you, Lord, but first let me go and say good-bye to those at my house." But Jesus said to him, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

Matthew 19:27 ²⁷ Then Peter answered and said to Him, "See, we have left all and followed You. Therefore, what shall we have?"

10. In Luke 18:28 Peter says to Christ we have left our own homes and followed you and Matthew 19:27 he says we have left all. What does it mean to come and follow Christ?

Titus 2:11-12 ¹¹ For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, ¹² training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age,

11. What does it look like for us to deny ourselves?

You shall have treasures in heaven

Luke 12:31-32 ³¹ Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things will be added to you. ³² "Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

12. Looking back on pg 16 in Luke 18:29-30, what is our reward for giving up everything and following Christ?

Let's put this into practice:

Giving up everything is impossible for us, but it's not impossible for God. Go to Him in prayer and ask Him to reveal your heart, and to take away the things you are trusting in. Going through the ten commandments can help you. **Instructions:** In order to learn to use the law in evangelism it is necessary that we first allow the law to speak to our hearts. For the rest of your study today go through the ten commandments one by one and ask yourself the following questions. Take time to repent and to ask God to take any ungodly desires away from you. Cry out to Him in repentance and for help. Remember with Him all things are possible.

Martin Luther – "The first duty of the gospel preacher is to declare God's law and show the nature of sin, because it will act as a schoolmaster and bring him to everlasting life which is in Jesus Christ."

The Ten commandments

1. "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of ^[a]bondage. "You shall have no other gods before Me.

• Where are your treasures? God ask you to give up everything, is there anything you would not want to give up?

2. "You shall not make for yourself a carved image—any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them nor ^[b]serve them. For I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting^[c] the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.

- Are you trying to make god conform to your own ideas? Are you believing anything that contradict the scriptures? This is idolatry; you have a god in your own mind. Example: You believe that God understands that we sin. So when you sin you look at it as if it's no big deal.
- Another example: you understand that there is only one way to God through Jesus Christ but you live as if there were more than one way. You know someone who is placing their hope in something else and you don't want to warn them or proclaim the gospel to them because you want to live at peace with them. You are not considering the seriousness of them not being at peace with God. This is a man-centered view. What idols have you created for yourselves?

3. "You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain.

 Do you use God's name as a curse word? Do you use God's name as form of disgust? Or perhaps you use God name without even thinking about it to add emphasis like "Oh my G__"?

4. but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your

female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.

 Are you trying to please God with your works to get to heaven? Example: Muslims believe to get to heaven, "if their god is in a good mood", their good works must outweigh their bad works. The Jehovah witnesses believe they must work their way to heaven. This is why they knock on doors faithfully. Do you feel God owes you because of what you do or did? Or do you rely solely on the work Christ did on the cross and rest in Him. He is the LORD of the Sabbath?

5. "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the LORD your God is giving you.

- When you were under your parents' roof, did you always obey them? Do you respect your parents even when it is very difficult?
- 6. "You shall not murder.
 - Have you ever said you hated someone? Or have you ever gotten angry with someone and called them a fool out of anger? The Bible says, in 1 John 3:15, "Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him." And Matthew 5: 22 says, "But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, 'Raca!' shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, 'You fool!' shall be in danger of hell fire."
- 7. "You shall not commit adultery.
 - Have you ever looked at a person to lust after them? Matthew 5:28 says, "But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart."
- 8. "You shall not steal.
 - Have you ever stolen anything, no matter the value? What do you call people who steal? In 1 Cor 6:9 10 says, "⁹ Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor ^[a]homosexuals, nor ^[b]sodomites, ¹⁰ nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God."

- 9. "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
 - Have you ever lied before? What do you call a person who lies? Do you tell someone you're going to do something, knowing you aren't going to do it? Matthew 5:37 says, "But let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No.' For whatever is more than these is from the evil one."

10. "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor's."

• Do you want anything that belongs to another person? Are you happy when you see someone being blessed with something you would like? Do you envy another person because of their talent? Are you content with what God has given you?

Day 4 The Full Gospel Shared

John Wesley – "Before I preach love, mercy and grace, I must preach sin, law and judgment."

Today we will look at Jesus proclaiming the gospel to the Samaria woman. We will break our study up into five parts:

- 1) Turning a conversation into a gospel conversation
- 2) Sin and the Law
- 3) Judgment
- 4) Righteousness
- 5) Grace

Now let's have fun reading John 4:7-26

⁷ A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." ⁸ (For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) ⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) ¹⁰ Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." ¹¹ The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? ¹² Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock." ¹³ Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again.^[a] The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." ¹⁵ The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water."

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." ¹⁷ The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; ¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true." ¹⁹ The woman said to him, "Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. ²⁰ Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship." ²¹ Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. ²² You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³ But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. ²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." ²⁵ The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things." ²⁶ Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he." Turning a conversation into a gospel conversation John 4:7-15

- 1. Who started the conversation and what was said?
- 2. From what we know in this Chapter does Jesus know this woman or are they just meeting for the first time?
- 3. How soon after they begin talking does Jesus turn this natural conversation into a gospel conversation?
- 4. As we see, Jesus didn't give up, even when the Samarian woman didn't catch onto His true meaning. There are two places where Jesus guides the conversation from natural things to the gospel. Which two verses and what does it say?

5. In vs 7 Jesus starts the conversation. What word does He use to turn the natural conversation into a gospel conversation, see vs 7, 10, 13?

We need to stop being so quick to tell others, "God loves them and has a wonderful plan for your life." Jesus demonstrates God's love toward this woman by turning the conversation towards the gospel and not allowing her to sidetrack Him. He continues to move the conversation into a gospel conversation. The love of God is that He wishes no one should perish but that all come to the knowledge of Him. It is easy to allow the other person to take control of the conversation. How many times would you try to turn the conversation into a gospel conversation before you gave up. This is an important skill. Let's practice.

Practice:

Think of some conversations that you recently had. How could you have turned that natural conversation into a gospel conversation. Describe.

See, that wasn't so hard, was it? I'm encouraging you to keep practicing and it will get easier. The fear never leaves, and this is why we continue to pray, all the time. A good prayer for this is what Paul asked the Colossians to pray for him in Colossians 4:2-3.

Colossians 4:2-3 ² Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving; ³ meanwhile praying also for us, that God would open to us a door for the word, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in chains,

Another method I like to use to start a conversation is with a gospel tract. While handing the tract to someone I'll ask them one of two questions. "Did you get one of these gospel tracts?" or "Can I give you a gospel tract?" Most people don't refuse when offered something. Then when they receive the tract I ask, "What do you know about the gospel?". I take time to listen to them and a gospel conversation is formed. So, a gospel tract is very beneficial. First, it's a good conversation starter. Second, if we have a gospel conversation it's something they can refer to later. Third, if we don't get to talk at least they have the tract to read later. So, get some gospel tracts, our church has lots of them,

and always keep them on you. Praying that God will open the door for you to speak the mystery of Christ to someone.

Sin and the Law John 4:16-18

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." ¹⁷ The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; ¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true."

- 1. How did Jesus help this Samaritan woman see her sin?
- 2. Which of this woman's sin did Jesus expose? Which of the ten commandments was she breaking?

Romans 5:20²⁰ Now the law came in to increase the trespass, but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more,

Galatians 3:24 Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

3. Looking at Romans 5:20 and Galatians 3:24, why did Jesus draw attention to this woman's sin?

Practice:

Jesus express His love both to the rich young ruler and to the Samaritan woman by pointing to their sin. Where sin abounds, grace abounds much more.

We are not God so we can't see people's heart. Nevertheless, we can and must share the law. How could you lovingly help the Samaritan woman see her sins.

What questions could you ask using the the Ten Commandments? Write some down.

How easy was it? Well, using the law to help expose sin makes a world of difference. A question I would ask the Samaritan woman or anyone for that matter is, "Have you ever looked at a person to lust after them?" If they say yes, I then quote Matt 5:27-28.

Side Note: I like to use the word person instead using woman because now days you never know if a person likes the same sex or not. My focus is getting to the heart of the matter without adding any confusion. Judgement

John 4:19-22 ¹⁹ The woman said to him, "Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. ²⁰ Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship." ²¹ Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. ²² You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.

We saw earlier that one definition of judgment is: that punishment which Christ occasioned, in that wicked men rejected the salvation he offered, and <u>so of their</u> own accord brought upon themselves misery and punishment.

- 1. How does the Samaritan woman say they worship?
- 2. How does Jesus describe the way the Samaritan woman worship, in vs:22?

Worship is defined as homage (respect or reverence) rendered unto God.

3. If the Samaritan woman continued to worship the way she was used to worship, would she bring judgment upon herself? Why or why not?

We can be sincerely worshipping with all our hearts and be sincerely wrong if we are not meeting God's righteous requirements for worship.

Practice:

Let's stop and think about what we know about the Samaritan woman up until this point. If you were the one witnessing to her. How could you lovingly show her that she is worshipping incorrectly and there by bringing judgment onto herself? So how did you do? This can be tricky because in our culture today we have a big thing about judging. We even made a slogan, "Only God can judge me." I like pointing people to the Bible by saying, "the bible says ...". I also like asking questions, such as:

- 1. If God were to judge you right now based your own admission that you're an adulterer, would you be innocent or guilty before a righteous God?
- 2. If you were to die today would you go to heaven or hell?

So, I leave it up to them, allowing them to judge themselves. Most people have a hard time acknowledging that they are on their way to hell. Many people would answer, "I would be guilty, but God would forgive me so I'm ok and He'll let me go to heaven." At that point I would talk about the righteousness of God so they can see their real problem.

Righteousness

John 4:23-24 ²³ But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. ²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."

Think about it. The Samaritan woman is living with a man that is not her husband after having five husbands. She thinks she can live this way and still worship God. Inherently, Jesus does not condemn her but lovingly tells her, "You are worshiping what you do not know." Then He corrects her by telling her the right way to worship. Read John 4:23-24 again and answer the following questions.

1. Jesus tells her the kind of worship that is acceptable to God. How are we to worship God?

Philippians 3:3 ³ For we are the circumcision, who worship ^[a]God in the Spirit, rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh,

Joshua 24:14 ¹⁴ "Now therefore, fear the LORD, serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of ^[a]the River and in Egypt. Serve the LORD!

2. What does it mean to worship God in Spirit and in truth?

Practice:

Write down how you can explain to someone the righteousness of God?

How was that. Here is how I like to explain it to people.

Me: Imagine that a person kills someone you deeply love, such as your child, parent, or friend. You would be angry and want the person punished and rightly so. But what if that person says, "Judge I'm sorry for what I did, now I'm a good person. I give to the poor and help people."

Me: "What do you think the judge would say?"

Them:

Me: "If he is a good judge, he would say you should be sorry, but you must pay the penalty."

Them:

Me: "You know God's standards is higher than a good earthly judge. His standard is perfection. Our righteousness must meet His standard of righteousness, and no one can meet that. And because He is righteous, He must punish sin.

Grace

John 4:25-26 ²⁵ The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things." ²⁶ Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am He."

Grace is defined as the ground of our election to salvation. It is the kindness by which God bestows salvation even upon the ill-deserving, and grants to sinners the pardon of their offences.

1. In John 4:25-26. We see the Holy Spirit opening the woman's eyes and giving her understanding. How is Jesus showing her grace?

John 4:29²⁹ "Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?"

John 4:39-42 ³⁹ Many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me all that I ever did." ⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹ And many more believed because of his word. ⁴² They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world."

- 2. In John 4:29, 39-42 What does the Samaritan woman do after her eyes had been open to who Jesus is?
- 3. What happens in the Samaritan city?

Look at vs 41, "Many believed because of His word.

Because of Jesus's word. We can proclaim the good news and the Holy Spirit will do whatever He pleases. He can open men's eyes and He can close men's eyes, but God allows us to share with Him in the ministry of salvation. The Holy Spirit testifies through us. Praise God we can be His vessels here on earth! As it states in Romans 10:14-15, "¹⁴ How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? ¹⁵ And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!"

Practice: Write down how you would share the grace of God to the Samaritan woman or someone else.

What a great honor and privilege we have. When we get to the message of Grace it's like lifting a veil, it's like the sun shing through the thunderous clouds.

Example

Me: "God's righteous standard is perfection and this is why Jesus Christ who is God took on human flesh. He is 100% God and 100% man. He lived on earth and keeped all the commandments perfectly; He lived a righteous life. He took all of our sins; every sin that you and I have committed was put upon Him when He died on the cross. He took all of the Father's wrath on the cross. The bible says it pleased the Father to crush Him. All the punishment that we deserve Jesus took it on the cross. Then He was raised from the dead and is alive today. And we must believe on Him, which means to place all our confidence in Him. We must repent of our sins which means to confess our sins and turn away from them. So, if we believe in Him, the Holy Spirit will cleanse us and give us a new heart so we can love the things He loves and hate the sins we used to love. Now what must we do to be saved?"

Them:

Me: Listening to them and help them where they need help to understand salvation. "Do you have a bible?"

Them:.....

Me: help them with getting a bible "Read the book of John and here is my number if you have any questions or need help? Also, do you need help finding a church, I know of a good one?"

Day 5 Share Your Testimony with the Gospel in it!

"God be thanked when the Law so works as to take off the sinner from all confidence in himself! To make the leper confess that he is incurable is going a great way toward compelling him to go to that divine Savior, who alone is able to heal him. This is the whole end of the Law toward men whom God will save." Charles Spurgeon

Today we are going to use what we learned in the last four days and write out our testimony to share the gospel with someone. Here are some things to think about while doing this activity.

- 1. Think of how Jesus saved you.
- 2. Sin & the law What opened your eyes to your sins? Sin is subtle and the law points to the root of our sins, so using the law what were you guilty of.
- 3. **Judgment** When did you realize that you were on your way to hell? When did you know that God's judgment was upon you?
- 4. **Righteousness** What woke you up to the fact that you needed a savior because your righteousness was not going to save you at all?
- 5. **Grace** When did you believe that God gave you grace through the death of Jesus Christ on the cross and His resurrection? When did you believe that it is only the resurrection of Christ that we were giving power to live a new life in Him?

Write your testimony so you can share it in 2 - 3 minutes; don't forget to include the gospel message in your testimony.

Write your testimony

Continue, Write your testimony

Day 6 Your turn, Write Your Gospel Presentation

Wesley advised a friend, "Preach 90 percent law and 10 percent grace."

Let's have fun writing your gospel presentation. We'll write it in 5 steps then you'll put it all together. Let's being.

Step 1: Starting a conversation and turning it into a gospel conversation.

Bill Fay in "Share Jesus without Fear" has some good starting questions. But first you want to start the conversation. Note: Starting a conversation also involves listening to the other person. This is the time you are building a relationship in 1-2 minutes, so remember, people love to talk about themselves. When they see you are interested in them you are building a rapport with them and they will be more comfortable to share with you. I will give some examples but please do not feel that you have to use my examples it's here just to help you start writing your own. Examples below.

Your Turn to write:

Examples of starting a conversation:

- ¹Do you live around here? ²So, what's a good church in this area? If they go to church ask them what made them start going to church? ³So who is Jesus to you? ⁴Where do you think people go when they die? ⁵Do you think you are good enough to go to heaven? Step 2
- ¹I like your cross you are wearing. ²So what does that cross mean to you? This can go so many ways, but as you listen and you can ask, ³"Who is Jesus to you? ⁴Or, you believe there is a heaven and a hell? ⁵Do you think your good enough to go to heaven?" Step 2

Note: Many Americans or church people will say Jesus is their Lord and Savior. Do not let this stop you. Continue sharing the gospel because you never know what you may help them discover. Be like our Lord and Savior who continued to press with the rich young ruler.

¹How is your day going? ²How are you handling everything that's going on with the coronavirus? You can talk about how you are responding to the coronavirus and share your testimony. If you are able to continue to talk you can now ask them, "³Do you have any kind of spiritual belief?" '⁴To you, who is Jesus?, ⁵Do you believe there is a heaven and a hell? ⁶If you died right now, where would you go? If heaven, why? ⁷If what you believe were not true, would you want to know it? If the person says yes, Step 2. If the person says no and you haven't shared your testimony already then this is a good time, you can tell them why you are asking them these questions and use this to share your testimony.

Charles H. Spurgeon said in a quote, "Let each one of us, if we have done nothing for Christ, begin to do something now. The distribution of tracts is the first thing."

 I like giving out gospel tracts because it's a good way to start a conversation. And it gives them something to read once they are gone. You can look back at page 26 to see my example with the gospel tracts. John Wycliffe – "The highest service to which a man may attain on earth is to preach the law of God."

There are many ways to go about this so think through which way you feel comfortable with. But the most important thing is to make it personable to them. Be careful not to use "us" in general terms when you are helping them to expose their sins. Yes, we all have fallen short of the glory of God but you are working with the Holy Spirit to perk their hearts. This comes with practice and maybe we might call it a science and an art. But we are called to do it so, pray, pray to God for help, and practice, practice, practice!

Starting into Step 2. You can start with asking the person, "Can I give you the good person test?" or "You know, Paul in the bible says, he has not known sin but by the law, "Do you think you keep the Ten Commandments? Can I help you with that?" or You can say, "Did you know the bible says Quoting a commandment and explaining it. Then ask them how do you think you fared?"

Instructions: As I'm writing now, I'm thinking of different ways to bring the law into a conversation. So let me stop writing and allow you to take your turn. Look at the Ten Commandments and pick three or four and write some questions you can ask someone to help expose their heart. But first look at how you ended in step 1 and think of how you would move into step 2.

Your Turn to write:

Moving from Step 1 going into Step 2:

Using the Law (go to page 21-23) Write questions using the law and your response. Example, "Have you ever lied before? What do you call a person who lied? The bible says all liars will be in the Lake of Fire."

2.

3.

4.

Step 3 Righteousness

Charles H. Spurgeon said, "Do you want arguments for soul winning? Look up to Heaven and ask yourself how sinners can ever reach those harps of gold and learn their everlasting song, unless they have someone to tell them of Jesus, who is mighty to save. But the best argument of all is to be found in the wounds of Jesus. You want to honor Him, you desire to put many crowns upon His head, and this you can best do by winning souls for Him. These are the spoils that He covets, these are the trophies for which He fights, these are the jewels that shall be His best adornment."

You have gone through the law with them, and they are able to see their sins. Now explain God's righteousness. His standard of perfection.

Our goal is to help them understand God's righteousness. You can use common examples to help them understand. But whatever example you use, help them understand it's only an example and God's righteous standard is higher much than the example.

Example: Summarizing their sin and moving into righteousness, "So from your own admission you are a liar, thief, and a murderer and you have to face God on Judgment day. But there's a problem, God is righteous. Here is an example, If you were trying to clean a room during a dust storm in which dust is continuing to blow into the room, could you really clean this room? "No" and the same way we cannot clean our own heart. We can try to make it clean but no matter what, it will never be clean and this is the way sin looks in our heart to God. He is righteous and His standard is a clean heart.

Your Turn to write:

Step 4 Judgment

"When the sinner sees the awful consequences of breaking the Law of God—that he cannot escape the certainty of judgment—he will see his need to put on the Lord Jesus Christ. When we preach future punishment by the Law, the sinner comes to Christ solely to flee from "the wrath to come." Charles Spurgeon The order of presenting judgment and righteousness can go either way. You can explain the righteousness after the law or talk about judgment after the law. It really depends on how your conversation goes. Most importantly it helps to be gentle. Think of this time as if you are taking a splinter out, because their conscience is being pricked. So be loving and gentle. See Examples on the next page.

Your Turn to write, explain judgment and give an example of what this looks like:

Example:

Me: "Since God is righteous, and by your own admission you are (repeat what they said when you went through sin and the law) and you have to face God on Judgment day. Would you be innocent or guilty?"

Take this time to listen and point help them back God's righteousness.

Them:....

Me: "Would you go to heaven or hell?"

Listen and help them, smile and be pleasant because their heart is being pricked. This is the time I reiterate God's righteousness; helping them to see that they are storing up wrath from a God who is just. I'll use an illustration of a judge in a court room.

Them:.....

Me: "Imagine someone broke into your house and stole everything you owned and hurt the person you love. Well, you would be angry and want justice, and rightly so. Say it took them a while to find the person, but they found them. Then when the person gets before the judge they say, 'we'll judge I know I did wrong and I'm so sorry. But I gave the belongings to the poor and I did a lot of good work because of the wrong I did.' What would a good judge say?

Them:....

Me: He would say, 'While I'm happy you are sorry for your wrongdoing, but you still have to pay the penalty.' God's standard is so much higher than a good judge. So, if you are guilty before a righteous God would you go to heaven or hell?"

Them:....

Me: Do you know what hell is like?

Them:....

Me: The Bible says wiping and gnashing of teeth where worms never die, unquenchable fire, where all God's wrath abides. Are you ok with going to hell?

Them:...

Me: Do you want to know what God did so you don't have to go to hell?

Step 5 Grace

Charles Spurgeon – "They will never accept grace until they tremble before a just and Holy Law.

This is the time to tell the good news. They have heard the bad news and they understand the bad news which is very important. Hopefully if they haven't

walked away already you can now rejoice and allow the sun to shine. Hopefully the splinter is coming out, so they can understand the good news.

Jesus said, to the woman at the well, "I am He." Let's introduce them to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Share about what happened 2000 years ago, what He did, who He is, and why He did what He did, His resurrection, and what that means for them. If they believe, they can have eternal life, and please explain what it means to believe.

Your Turn to write:

Putting it all together:

Take your Steps 1 - 5 and write it out as one flowing gospel presentation. And practice, practice, practice. A couple of practicing techniques:

- 1. Share the gospel to yourself daily in the mirror.
- 2. Ask a family member if you can practice with them sharing the gospel?
- 3. Write a letter to a friend letting them know what you have learned and share the gospel.

- 4. Start smiling at people when you're out and try to make eye contact. See if you can start a conversation, while praying inwardly for God to open a door for you to share the gospel.
- 5. Make a goal to give out one gospel tract a day. And use this to start a gospel conversation.

Recommended sites

- o https://www.livingwaters.com/
- o https://www.youtube.com/livingwaters
- o <u>https://wretched.org/radio/</u> Wretched radio has witnessing Wednesday

Put your write out your full gospel presentation: