




Sharing the Gospel | Application

As we become increasingly relational with others with the purpose of sharing God's truth, we should recognize that the most important truth to convey is the gospel of God's grace. If sharing the gospel with others is not common place in your life, take the time necessary to study each of the following Bible passages to gain full understanding and be prepared to communicate them, conversationally, with those around you. In doing so, you will become increasingly equipped to share the gospel in any situation.


 **READ: Mark 16:15; John 20:21; Acts 20:24**

 **WRITE:** In what ways should these verses motivate you to be intentional in sharing the gospel?

 **THOUGHT PROVOKING:** Are you praying for and anticipating opportunities to tell others about the good news of Jesus?

 **2 Timothy 2:15**


We are to be well prepared in sharing the truth of Jesus as one approved that does not need to be ashamed. In presenting or dealing with the subject of salvation, it is very important that the entire truth be told. For example, some people focus on the vast blessings of salvation while overlooking the enormous cost of it. Even though some of the Bible's content is difficult to present and perhaps even more difficult to receive, it must be conveyed accurately, with love, and in its correct and complete context.

 Why is it important that a person's salvation is based on the complete gospel?

 **1 John 1:8-10**

To help someone comprehend the process of salvation it is essential that they first understand the personal need for it. According to Scripture, everyone has sinned (**Romans 3:9-10**). If a person believes they are without sin, they are deceived. And, because the Bible tells us that God sent His Son specifically to save us from the condemnation of sin, their incorrect thinking assumes God to be a liar.

 **John 3:16-18**

 Using these verses, explain how God fulfilled His redemptive plan for mankind. (After you have finished writing it out, practice communicating to others this message until it becomes a part of normal conversation for you.)


As you convey the gospel of Jesus to others, some people may have questions concerning the history of God's redemptive plan. For this reason, it can be beneficial for you to have knowledge of the Old Testament concerning salvation.

Exodus 24:3-8

In the Old Testament, God instructed His people how to live in a way that was pleasing and obedient to Him and made an agreement with them through a blood covenant. Entering into a covenant with God is serious business. When men enter into a covenant with each other, they each can provide input as to the stipulations of the agreement. However, in a covenant made between God and man, God sets the terms of the agreement and requires a response of obedience.

Sadly, this covenant was broken as a result of the people's sin. God's designated penalty for sin is death (**Ezekiel 18:20; Romans 6:23**). Our loving God provided a way for His people, throughout the Old Testament, to atone for their sins through blood sacrifice (**Leviticus 17:11**). Since God did not intend for these sacrifices to be a permanent solution for the atonement of sins, they had to be repeated by His people.

Then, God foretold of a new covenant with His people (**Jeremiah 31:31-34**). Where the old covenant was not able to fully clear our conscience of sin and guilt, the new covenant, through the blood of Jesus, cleanses us from all unrighteousness (**Hebrews 9:1-14**). In other words, the old covenant was a symbolic, temporary, outer work of the complete, eternal, inner work that the new covenant would accomplish.


 In what ways does understanding God's Old Testament covenant help you explain His gift of salvation to others?

1 Peter 1:18-19


In sharing the gospel, it is essential for people to comprehend that Jesus was the only one who could have atoned for sin. He is the only one perfect in every way, completely without sin.


1 John 4:9-10; Romans 5:6-8


When sharing the truth of Christ, it is valuable to convey God's enormous love for everyone.

 How do these verses prove God's gift of salvation to be a demonstration of His unconditional, eternal love?

Romans 1:16-17

 When communicating the gospel, why would it be important to focus on the power of the message of Jesus rather than consider your own possible ineffectiveness?

 **ACTION:** Ask the Holy Spirit to enable you to commit to memory the most significant verses concerning salvation. Then, ask a family member or friend to allow you to practice sharing with them the story of God's redemptive plan.

 **REMEMBER:** Whether or not you are well-prepared, communicating the truth of Jesus Christ could have eternal significance in the lives of others.

✦ You will often find, in Scripture, the following words used in association with salvation. Therefore, it may be beneficial to study and memorize their definitions in preparation for being questioned by those considering salvation.

 **Ephesians 2:8-9**

- **Grace:** *God's undeserved, unmerited, divine assistance to enable us in every way to accomplish His will*

 **Hebrews 11:1**

- **Faith:** *being certain, or confident, about the things of God regardless of whether they are visible*
Faith has its origin in Jesus and is further developed or perfected through a growing relationship with Him.

 **Romans 3:22-24**

- **Justification:** *justified or restored to a relationship free from sin and guilt before the Lord*
God is just and therefore will not allow sin to go unpunished. Because God's appointed penalty for sin is death, that penalty or debt must be paid for us to be justified. The gift of righteousness, or justification, which takes no work on our part, is the result of God's gift of grace.
- **Redemption:** *the means by which a person is justified*
Jesus' sacrificial death was paid in exchange for the enormous penalty for our sin. That payment redeemed us from sin and death. Our debt of sin was not cancelled but paid in full through Jesus' death on the cross.

 **Colossians 1:21-22**

- **Reconciliation:** *God exchanging our sin for His righteousness*
Since sin opposes our holy God, living in sin separates us from Him. Where sin made us enemies of God, acceptance and belief in His grace pardons us from sin, allowing us to be united with and reconciled to Him.

 **1 Thessalonians 4:3; Proverbs 15:9; Romans 6:22**

- **Sanctified:** *to set oneself apart to the Lord in continuous diligent pursuit of His righteousness.*
Sanctification is a process that takes intentional effort on the part of each believer.

 **Romans 8:38-39**

The enemy is not pleased when a person becomes saved and schemes to derail their faith. For this reason, we should be praying for new believers and encouraging them to stand on God's promises.

✦ In addition to the verses above, write below some Bible promises you could use to encourage new believers.

In making disciples, God wants to use you to further His kingdom by sharing His gospel with lost people and by training believers to do the same.

🌿 Do you have believers in your arena of influence who have not yet learned how to share the gospel?

 **FISHING FOR MEN: Matthew 4:18-20**

Pray for the details concerning fishing and your faithfulness in this endeavor: In this passage of Scripture, Jesus was walking along the seashore among fishing enthusiasts. These men didn't just fish for fun; they made their living fishing. Jesus wanted to teach these experienced fishermen how to fish with eternal purpose. Just as Jesus taught His disciples in Scripture, you have the opportunity to teach others how to become "fishers of men." Will you prayerfully consider setting aside time to intentionally tell and show others how to do so?

 **Romans 10:17**


Prepare to use the right bait: A person becomes a follower of Christ by placing his faith in Him. Because faith is based on truth, our message to the lost must be solely based on the gospel of Jesus Christ.

 **Luke 19:10**

Get among the fish: In order to win others to Jesus, we must intentionally share His message of salvation with the lost. When you hear the phrase "a fish out of water" it refers to a person who is in a circumstance for which they are unsuited. Help those you disciple to recognize that Jesus purposefully placed Himself amidst lost people. And, even though being among the lost may result in believers being uncomfortable, we are to follow Jesus' example by engaging those who live without Him.

 **John 6:44**

Leave the results to God: The Bible tells us that no one will come to Christ unless God the Father draws them. For this reason, we should do everything as God leads and leave the results to Him. Help others to understand that in the same way a fisherman may have a prime fishing hole and bait, it is still the fish that responds by choosing to bite. Similarly, God alone works in the hearts of people who hear truth and accept His gift of grace, affording Him all the glory.

 **TO ENCOURAGE:** For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. (**Romans 1:16**)