

Gospel Centered Life

What Is the Gospel?

Chapter 1

- 1. Read the following Bible passages. As you read these passages ask these two questions: (1) “What does this say about God?” and (2) “What does this say about me?”**

A. Isaiah 55:6-9

B. Jeremiah 16:9-10

- 2. Define the Gospel. (Don't share the Gospel, but define it.)**

- 3. Does the Gospel remove the seriousness of sin?**

- 4. Can we now sin without concern because of the Gospel?**

- 5. How do you minimize your sin? Does it coincide with one of the six options given in the chapter 1 Supplement? What does this reveal about your true belief about your sin?**

Chapter 2

1. Read the following passages from the Bible'

A. Luke 18:9–14

What character do you most identify with?

What do you like/dislike about the Pharisees?

What do you like/dislike about the tax collector?

B. Luke 18:18-23

What is this man's view of Himself?

What is this man's view of God?

2. Read chapter 2 Article,

Define pretending -

Define performing –

3. How do these concepts shrink the cross?

4. **How did the Pharisee from Luke 18:9-14 shrink the cross? Was the Tax collector from Luke 18 shrinking the cross in any way?**

5. **What are some common rules we make for ourselves and others that actually shrink the cross?**

Chapter 3

1. **Read 2 Peter 1:3-8,**
 - A. How does this portray the power of God to save? to transform?

 - B. What promises does this passage highlight as a result of Gospel?

 - C. How would you rate yourself in comparison to this list of virtues/traits? Increasing, decreasing, staying still?

 - D. If you are not growing spiritually as you would hope, why do you think that is?
2. **Read 2 Peter 1:9, What does it tell us about why we sometimes stagnate or do not increase in spiritual growth?**

3. Read the article in chapter 3

A. What does the author say we must understand to experience Gospel transformation?

B. Define Passive Righteousness

C. Without passive righteousness what are we dependent on?

4. What is the correlation between the righteousness we have been given and our adoption as sons?

What does the Gospel do in us?

Chapter 4

1. The author lists a number of questions within the “Big Idea” of this chapter. Consider these questions (listed below) prior to working through the chapter, upon completion of your reading, consider if your view has been changed or grown, if so how?

- A. What is the law?
- B. Does God expect me to obey it?
- C. What is the purpose of the Law?
- D. How does the law help me to believe the Gospel?
- E. How does the Gospel help me to obey the law?

2. Read and compare Matthew 5:17-19 and Romans 10:1-4: A. Is Paul contradicting Jesus?

- B. What does it Paul mean when he writes “Christ is the end of the law”?
- C. What is Jesus’ relationship to the law?

3. Read the Chapter 4 article

- A. In light of the article how would you describe the correlation between the law and the Gospel? Would you agree with that position?

- B. Would you say you do things because you ought to do them or because you get to do them?

4. Work through the Gospel Grid and The Law exercise,

- A. Define legalism

- B. Define liberty

- C. What is the basic difference between these two?

5. How would you help someone struggling with a persistent sin (ie that they ought to evangelize more often, or can't stop looking at pornography, etc) apply this grid to their lives?

Chapter 5

1. Define repentance -

2. Read 2 Corinthians 7:5-13:

- A. What did Paul want for the Corinthians?
- B. Why did he want it?
- C. What was the fruit of repentance in the lives of the Corinthians?
- D. How did their repentance affect Paul?

3. Read the Chapter 5 article:

- A. What is the difference between true and false repentance?
- B. Of remorse and resolution, which do you gravitate towards most naturally?
- C. What are some evidences or marks of true repentance?

4. Pick two items from the Chapter 5 exercise *Practicing Repentance*,” work through the steps in order to demonstrate the principles of true repentance.

Chapter 6

1. Read Mark 1:15, What does Jesus mean when He says, “Repent and believe?” What is He expecting them/us to believe?

2. Read the Chapter 6 article, *Heart Idolatry*

A. The author writes, “The Christian life is not about doing, it is about believing.” Do you agree or disagree? Why?

B. How do we believe more?

C. What most clearly identifies what we believe about a given issue?

D. What is a heart idol?

E. How does identifying/defeating heart idols help in our spiritual growth?

3. From the list of heart idols identified in the article, pick one that you identify with and describe the process you would encourage someone else to follow in order to overcome this idol.

How does the gospel work through us?

Chapter 7

1. Read and consider Galatians 5:13-15, How is it possible to use freedom as an opportunity to sin?

A. What are some things that keep us from serving one another as this passage instructs?

B. Are these issues related to Gospel centered living, if so how?

2. Read the Chapter 7 Article

A. Does the Christian life and mission at times seem like a duty or an overflow of your joy?

B. If so, what do you think causes you to feel this way?

C. How do you respond when you lack motivation for mission? Legalism (have to do it to be loved) or license (do nothing because you are loved regardless).

D. Is there a better way?

3. Work through the chapter 7 exercise

Mission is defined here as anything that brings gospel-centered renewal/redemption to people, places, and cultures.

Chapter 8

1. Read Matthew 18:21-35, what is the point of the story?

A. If you had to describe what it means to forgive someone, what would you say?

B. Why is forgiveness so difficult?

2. Read Chapter 8 article, according to this article what are the important aspects of forgiveness?

3. Work through the Chapter 8 exercise

A. Explain how the Gospel can enable you to have compassion and genuine love toward people you need to forgive.

B. Describe some specific steps of love you can take in these relationships. This is not meant to be theory

C. How can you help others to learn how to forgive?

Chapter 9

1. **Read Galatians 2:11-14, why was Peter in the wrong? What was Paul motive for confronting Peter?**

2. **Read Chapter 9 article**

A. Who is an attacker? Who is a withdrawer?

B. What things on the two lists in the article did you most identify with?

C. Why do you think we handle conflict this way?

3. **Work through the chapter 9 exercise**

A. How can this help you deal with conflict differently?