



The Gospel Is Good News

Lesson Summary

To truly understand the good news of the Bible, we must grasp the bad news of the Bible first. Because God is a holy God—righteous and separate from sin—he cannot dwell with sinful man, and his perfect justice demands that he punish disobedience. The Bible tells us that “all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23) and that “the wages of sin is death” (Romans 6:23). This is the bad news—that all people are separated from God, born spiritually dead (Ephesians 2:1), under his just penalty, and destined for an eternity in hell.

The good news is that God sent his own Son, Jesus, to become a man, live a sinless life, and then die on the cross, paying the penalty of death that we all deserve. “For our sake he [God] made him [Jesus] to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God” (2 Corinthians 5:21). In the death of Christ, we see the justice of God satisfied and the love of God demonstrated (Romans 5:8).

Repentance of one’s sin and trust in Christ as Savior and Lord are the responses of the sinner unto salvation. We are adopted by God as sons, joint heirs with Christ (Ephesians 1:5; Romans 8:16–17); we are born again to a new and living hope (1 Peter 1:3); we become new creations in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17); and we have the sure hope of eternal life (Titus 1:2). Praise be to God for his grace and mercy demonstrated in the good news of the gospel—the central theme of the Bible!

Read and Discuss

Read the following passages and discuss the questions together.

1 Corinthians 15:1–4; Romans 10:9–13, 10:17

1. What did Paul describe as “the gospel”?
2. Are the Scriptures necessary to understand the gospel?
3. How do we receive the gospel?

Romans 3:10–24

4. According to verses 19–20, what is the purpose of the law?

5. How many people are sinners and guilty before God?

6. Will a person understand the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection without first understanding the bad news of his sin and position before God?

7. What is the only way to be justified before God?

Memory Verse

Review the memory verse with your family.

2 Timothy 3:16–17 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

Prayer

Thank God for his Word, which gives us the gospel message. Thank him for sending his Son Jesus to be our Lord and Savior. Ask him to give you a burden for those who do not know Christ and boldness in sharing the bad news and the good news of the gospel.

Family Prayer Requests: