

# ALL IN: PART 1 - THE GOSPEL

**P**urpose: To understand the need to define the Gospel through scripture and understand how it is our inspiration, strength, power and starting point.

## Introduction

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1. Why do you think the first message of our “ALL IN” series starts with the Gospel?
2. Why do you think it is important to remind ourselves of the Gospel?

*Read 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 and answer the following questions:*

3. Using a dictionary, define the word “folly” or “foolishness”.
4. What is the power of God to those being saved? (v18)
5. What is folly to those who are perishing?
6. What did the Jews demand?
7. What did the Greeks seek?
8. What did Paul preach to the Corinthians?

9. Why do you think this message of “Christ crucified” was a stumbling block to the Jews and folly to the Gentiles?

10. From this passage, why is it important to begin learning how to live out the Gospel?

## Defining The Gospel

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11. How would you define the Gospel?

**B**ecause the Gospel is the foundation of our faith, it is important that we have a full definition of the Gospel. Without a full understanding of the Gospel, we cannot have a firm foundation for our lives. We will use four questions to guide us as we begin to fully define the Gospel. Gospel literally means “good news”. What is the good news that the Gospel brings? Consider these 4 questions:

1. Who made us, and to whom are we accountable?
2. What is our problem? Are we in trouble and why?
3. What is God’s solution to that problem? How has he acted to save us from it?
4. How are we called to respond to the work of the Cross?

In order to fully define “the Good News”, we must first understand **WHY** we need good news.

## 1. Who Made Us, and to Whom Are We Accountable?

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*Read Genesis 2:7 and answer the following questions:*

12. Who created us?
  
13. Why do you think it is significant that God created us?

*Read Romans 14:10-12 and answer the following questions:*

14. Who do we have to give an account to?
  
15. Are you living your life in a way that you would be ready to give an account?
  
16. What would your account include?

*Read Acts 17:29-31 and answer the following questions:*

17. What does it mean when the writer calls us God's offspring?
  
18. What does God command all people to do?
  
19. Why does he command us to repent? How would you define repentance?
  
20. How could a lack of understanding of who made us and why we are accountable to God compromise the message of the Gospel?

## 2. What is Our Problem? Are We in Trouble and Why?

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*Read Romans 3:23a and answer the following question:*

21. From this verse, what is our problem?

*Read Romans 1:21-32 and answer the following questions:*

22. What did they exchange the glory of the immortal God for?

23. What did they exchange the truth about God for? How is this contrary to our design?

24. List some of their dishonorable practices:

25. What were they full of?

26. Are these dishonorable practices or evil still seen today?

*Read Isaiah 53:6 and answer the following questions:*

27. Using a dictionary, define the word "iniquity".

28. How are we described? What has everyone done?

29. Who does this verse prophesy about?

30. What has the Lord laid on him?

31. Why do you think it is important to understand the sinful human nature?

32. If the story ended here – at God justly judging us because of our sin – how would you feel?

### **3. What is God's Solution to That Problem? How Has He Acted to Save Us From It?**

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*Read John 3:16-21 and answer the following questions:*

33. What is God's solution to that problem? How has He acted to save us from it?

34. Why did God send his Son?

*Read Philippians 2:5-11 and answer the following questions:*

35. What does this verse say about Christ Jesus?

36. Why is it important that Jesus humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death?

*Read 2 Corinthians 5:21 and 1 Peter 2:24.*

37. What does Jesus' death mean for us?

#### 4. How Are We Called to Respond to Jesus' Work on The Cross?

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Read Romans 10:9-13, Mark 1:15, and Ephesians 2:4-9.

38. From the above verses, how are we called to respond to the work of the cross?

#### Conclusion

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**F**or God, to whom we are accountable, sent His only son, Jesus Christ, to both save us and satisfy His wrath against our sin so that through the gift of faith, we may be in right standing before God.

39. Does the above definition of the Gospel answer the four questions we answered throughout this lesson? Is there anything you would add?

**T**he message that Paul preached was 'Jesus Christ and him crucified' (1 Corinthians 1:18–2:5). 'Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David. This is my Gospel' (2 Timothy 2:8). The Gospel is this 'word of truth' (Ephesians 1:13). However hidden this Gospel might be to unbelievers (2 Corinthians 4:3, 4) and to those who try to domesticate it by demands for supernatural proofs and oratorical demonstrations (1 Corinthians 1:21–23), Paul knew that the secret of this Gospel's power lay in the message of the cross, mediated by the Spirit. His aim was to preach in such a way that people were not swayed by his eloquence and rhetoric; he wanted to preach 'with a demonstration of the Spirit's power' so that his hearers' faith 'might not rest on men's wisdom, but on God's power' (2:4–5). Paul knew that God himself had chosen the Thessalonian converts because his Gospel came to them not simply with words but also [p. 78] with power, with the Holy Spirit and with deep conviction (1 Thessalonians 1:5). So much is power an accompaniment of this Gospel that Paul can insist the Gospel is 'the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes' (Romans 1:16). This Gospel discloses a righteousness from God that is appropriated by faith (1:17), a righteousness inextricably tied to Christ's sacrifice, by which God demonstrated his justice while justifying the ungodly (3:21–26).  
– D. A. Carson

## Memory Verse

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**1** Peter 2:24 - He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.