

SUPREMACY OF THE GOSPEL

1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-4

SEPTEMBER 13, 2020



PERSONAL STUDY GUIDE

MAIN POINT

The gospel is what is most important in the Christian life.

INTRODUCTION

If you asked a group of random non-believers what they think is most important to Christians, what are some answers they might give?

What would you say is the most important thing in the Christian life?

In your own words, what is the gospel?

Why did you become—or why would you want to become—a Christian?

UNDERSTANDING

> READ 1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-2 (ESV).

Consider the verbs Paul used in verses 1-2—"preached," "received," "stand," "saved," "hold fast," and "believed." These words describe how the gospel is transmitted from person to person. How did you first hear the good news of Jesus?

What does it look like in your life to hold fast to the gospel?

Based on verses 1-2, did Paul see the gospel as applicable only when we die? How do you know?

Why would Paul feel it necessary to remind the Corinthians believers of the gospel if they'd already believed it?

Why do you need to be reminded of the gospel?

> READ 1 CORINTHIANS 15:3-4 (ESV).

From Paul's words here, what are the main points of the gospel? How does Paul's summation of the gospel in these verses compare with how you answered the previous question, "What is the gospel"?

How would you explain this message to someone if you only had time for a brief conversation? How could you use verses 3-4 as a guide?

In verses 3-4, Paul claimed Christ's actions were "in accordance with the Scriptures"? Why is this fact so important? Read 1 Peter 1:18-21. Though you were not a witness to the resurrection yourself, why are you not at a disadvantage to the people Paul described here?

Why is it important to include Jesus' resurrection when you discuss the gospel?

APPLICATION

How would you describe your current understanding and practice of sharing the gospel: crawling, taking your first steps, walking confidently, or running? Why?

What are some of the environments in which you find yourself where the truth of the gospel is being challenged? What is God calling you to do to stand for truth in that situation?

What obstacles or attitudes are holding you back from "standing in the gospel"(v. 1)? What is hindering you from advancing in your understanding or practice of the gospel?

In what situations might you need to remind yourself of the gospel this week? How might a greater awareness of the truths of the gospel change your perspective on temptation? On success? On change? On difficulty?

PRAY

Thank God for the gospel. Thank Him for having saved you, continuing to save you, and promising to save you for all eternity. Pray that you would stand firmly in the gospel and grow in Christ by relying on His grace.

MEMORIZE

"For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures," —1 Corinthians 15:3-4 (ESV)