

Sharing the Gospel

An easy to do four week plan to learn to share the Gospel

As believers, we know that sharing the Gospel with others is something we are both expected to do and privileged to do. While we know this and most have a genuine desire to do this, we're not often called upon to share the details of the Gospel in a "from ground zero" context. If we have grown up in the church, or been in church for a while, we know the details of the Gospel, and believe them, but might not have structured them in our minds in such a way that we could share it with someone who has either little to no knowledge of the Gospel or with someone who has an incorrect view.

The goal of this packet is to help you build a framework to share the complete message of the gospel with someone "from ground zero" using Scripture. You should be able to learn to share the Gospel clearly, and comprehensively in a month using this plan. If it takes you a little longer, don't worry. As long as you're being intentional and moving forward, you're doing great!

Week One

Read through the Gospel Presentation (the "**What Is the Gospel?**" page) daily, and memorize the verses in the section titled "**God's Glory**" (the first three verses). For the Ephesians 1 verses, you only memorize the explanation of the verses, not the actual verses. You should be able to memorize the two verses and the explanation easily if you work on it for 10-15 minutes each day. Writing out the verses on the back of a business card or on an index card and carrying it around with you is helpful. You could also tape the verse(s) to your car's dashboard so that you can glance down while at stoplights, or before you start your car to go somewhere. **P.S. - Don't read them while you're driving!**

Week Two

Read through the Gospel Presentation once a day and memorize the "**My Sin**" section of verses. There are six verses in this section. Most of them are pretty short. Make sure that you haven't forgotten the verses from week one. Go over them a couple of times this week. Again, carrying the verses around on index cards or business cards would be helpful.

Think about where you could put copies of the verses around the house, around the office, in the garage/workshop, etc. The more you see them, the better.

Week Three

Continue reading the Gospel Presentation once daily. It will help to plant the overall flow of the Gospel presentation firmly in your mind. There are only four new verses this week. Memorize the "**God's Provision**" verses this week. As you work on memorizing the new verses, and continue going over the first two week's verses, these Scriptures and the Gospel should definitely start to really "take root" in your life. There is tremendous potential for personal spiritual growth just through the memorization of these Scriptures.

Remember that the verses are in sequence. Remembering the flow of the Gospel:

(God's Glory, My Sin, God's Provision, My Salvation) will help you memorize them and remember the order of the verses.

Week Four

Read the Gospel Presentation daily. Memorize the "**My Salvation**" verses, the final two Scriptures. This week, go through the entire Gospel presentation with your spouse or a friend being sure to quote the verses as completely as you can. The idea is to know the verses and the overall story so well that it flows easily. Sharing the Gospel with someone should never sound like a "memorized script" that you're quoting, but something that has made a deep, significant impact in your life, so that you can't help but share it with others!

If you follow this plan, you can learn to share the Gospel in only four weeks!

What is the Gospel?

The most important question you will ever answer is **“What is the Gospel, and what is my response to it?”**

The word “Gospel” is a combination of two Greek words that mean “to announce good news.” When we say “Gospel” we mean the story of the Good News of Jesus Christ. His story is certainly good news. The starting point of the Gospel is God. God created everything. He created everything to glorify Himself. The entire Bible is an unfolding of the Gospel, but these verses summarize it in a clear way so that you can be saved.

• God’s Glory

Psalm 96 – tells us that “For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods. For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the Lord made the heavens... Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name.” God created everything, and we are to worship Him. Whenever we place *anything* in front of Him, we deny this.

Ephesians 1:3-14 In the Bible this is one long sentence and it tells us that everything God has done for us was done for His own glory. The phrase “to the praise of His glory” is repeated three times in one sentence.

1 Corinthians 10:31 – tells us that everything we do (eat, drink, or whatever) should be for His glory.

• My Sin

Unfortunately, we could not have failed God more miserably than we have. We are all sinful from birth (**Psalm 51:5**). We are sinful and will one day stand before Him as our judge (**Acts 17:30-31**). Have you ever told a lie? (Even a small one?) That makes you a liar. If you were to look at the 10 Commandments and be completely honest, you would have to admit that you have broken every one of them. **Romans 3:10-12, 23 & 6:23, Genesis 6:5** – These verses tell us that we are not looking for God. We are all sinful and we all deserve punishment for our sins, which is spiritual and physical death. We will all one day face judgment for our lives and our sins.

The biggest problem with sin is that we cannot earn our way to heaven (**Ephesians 2:8-9**). If we take an honest look at what the Bible teaches about our sinful condition, it will be a bit discouraging. It tells us that not only are we sinful, but also that we cannot do anything about this condition on our own.

• God’s Provision

BUT: in the midst of our sinfulness, God decided to do something about it. **Romans 5:8** says, “But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” This is incredibly good news.

2 Corinthians 5:21 says, “...he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.” Jesus took the punishment for my sins. It was as if He had lived my life and He was punished in my place. **1 Corinthians 15:4** - This is the core truth of the Gospel: Christ died, was buried, and rose again. Thereby taking my place and enduring the punishment for my sin. He rose again to prove His power over death. **1 Peter 3:18** says, “Christ also suffered for sins... that he might bring us to God.” Jesus died so that I could know God and be saved.

So how do I become a Christian?

• My Salvation

Romans 10:9-10 says, “Because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.” **Mark 1:15** says, “Repent and believe in the Gospel.” We must repent and believe in Jesus to be saved. It’s more than just believing the facts about Jesus. It involves repentance from sin and obedience. **“Believe” means “to trust in, rely on, and cling to”** Jesus alone as the solution to your sin problem. Only Jesus can save you. Will you repent and believe in Jesus as your Savior and Lord? We must have an accurate view of who Jesus is. We must respond to Him. Only Jesus can give us freedom from sin and judgment. Only Jesus can transform you and restore to you the relationship with God you need. The ultimate question is “will you repent and believe in the Gospel? Will you believe in Jesus Christ as your Lord (Master) and your Savior?” If you will, then you are saved. A thanksgiving prayer is definitely appropriate.

The Memory Verses:

Week One • God's Glory

Psalm 96 – "Declare His glory among the nations, His marvelous works among all the peoples... For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the Lord made the heavens... Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;"

Ephesians 1:3-14 – In the longest sentence of the Bible, we find a description of what God has done for us in salvation. We see the phrase "to the praise of His glory" repeated three times.

1 Corinthians 10:31 – "So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God."

Week Two • My Sin

Psalm 51:5 – "I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me"

Acts 17:30-31 – "...now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness..."

Romans 3:10-12 – "as it is written: None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one." **3:22b-23** – "For there is no distinction: For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." **6:23** – "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Genesis 6:5 – "The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually."

Ephesians 2:8-9 – "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast."

Week Three • God's Provision

Romans 5:8—"but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us"

1 Peter 3:18 – "For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, so that he might bring us to God..."

2 Corinthians 5:21 – "...he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."

1 Corinthians 15:4 – "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."

Week Four • My Salvation

Romans 10:9-10 – "Because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved."

Mark 1:15 – "...repent and believe in the gospel."