

Gospel Experienced

Living out the Gospel

Objective

The outcome-based objective of this [module] is to show how we can live out the gospel in our everyday lives.

1. The Gospel is applicable to Christians for everyday living.
2. The Gospel gives us our identity. Who we are determines how we act.

Part one: **Jesus + Nothing = _____**

For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light. For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

- Colossians 1:9-14

The Gospel is the power of God unto _____.

The gospel is the power of God that _____ us (salvation past), _____ us (salvation present), _____ us (salvation future)

After throwing our works overboard as a means of salvation, we want to drag them back on board as a means of maintaining favor with God

- Jerry Bridges, *Transforming Grace*

“Oh how much larger our life will be if we become smaller in it.”

- GK Chesterton in his book *Orthodoxy*

The irony of gospel _____

When we focus so much on our need to improve we get worst. Those who get better are people who understands that even if they don't get better, God still loves them.

In the _____ gospel of grace, the one thing that qualifies us before God is knowing we don't qualify, and the one thing that disqualifies us is thinking we do.

_____ says you have to change if you want God to love you more. Christ cannot love me more, He has loved us fully already.

What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

- Romans 6:1-3

Are you so foolish? After beginning by means of the Spirit, are you now trying to finish by means of the flesh?

- Galatians 3:3

Moralistic Therapeutic Deism

Here are the characteristics of MTD:

1. A god exists who created and orders the world and watches over _____ life on earth.
2. God wants people to be good, nice and fair to each other as taught in the _____ and by most world religions.
3. The central _____ of life is to be happy and feel good about oneself.
4. God does not need to be particularly involved in one’s life except when God is needed to _____ a problem.
5. Good people go to _____ when they die.

“If you’re a Christian mainly because you want to be changed, that’s a problem. If you’ve given your life to God mostly because you are tired of yourself and want to be a different person – well, that may suggest you’re merely using God to fix you. That’s not faith. That’s not the love of God. That’s love of self.”

– Mark Galli

For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the _____ of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God,¹¹ being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience,

- Colossians 1:9-11

and giving joyful thanks to the Father, **who has qualified you** to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light.¹³ For he has **rescued** us from the dominion of darkness and us into the kingdom of the Son he loves,¹⁴ in whom we have **redemption**, the **forgiveness** of sins.

- Colossians 1:12-14

Qualified, _____, Brought, _____, Forgiven

Those who perform better are those who understand that their standing with God has nothing to do with their _____.
You have nothing to _____.

The difference between living for God and living for anything else is that when we live for anything else we do so to gain for _____ but when we live for God we do so because we are already accepted.

Real _____ is living your life trying to gain favor but living the _____ life means I live my life because I already have the favor.

Because Jesus was _____ for me, I am free to be weak;
Because Jesus _____ for me, I am free to lose;
Because Jesus was _____, I am free to be no one;
Because Jesus was _____, I am free to be ordinary;
Because Jesus _____ for me, I am free to fail.

I am a part of the fellowship of the _____. I have the Holy Spirit Power. The die has been cast. I have stepped over the line. The decision has been made. I am a disciple of Jesus Christ. I won't look back, let up, slow down, back away, or be still. My past is redeemed, my present makes sense, and my _____ is secure. I am finished and done with low living, sight walking, small planning, smooth knees, colorless dreams, tame visions, mundane talking, chintzy giving, and dwarfed goals.

I no longer need preeminence, _____, position, promotions, plaudits, or popularity. I don't have to be right, first, tops, recognized, praised, regarded, or rewarded. I now live by presence, learn by faith, love by patience, lift by prayer, and labor by power.

My pace is set, my gait is fast, my goal is Heaven, my road is narrow, my way is rough, my companions few, my Guide is reliable, my mission is clear.

I cannot be bought, compromised, deterred, lured away, turned back, diluted, or delayed. I will not flinch in the face of sacrifice, hesitate in the presence of adversity, negotiate at the table of the enemy, ponder at the pool of popularity, or meander in the maze of _____.

I won't give up, back up, let up, or shut up until I've preached up, prayed up, paid up, stored up, and stayed up for the cause of Christ. I am a disciple of Jesus Christ. I must go until He returns, give until I drop, preach until all know, and work until He comes.

And when He comes to get His own, He will have no problem recognizing me. My colors will be clear for "I am not ashamed of the _____ because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes.."

(Romans 1:16) By Dr. Bob Moorehead

Part two: Looking with **Gospel** lenses

When I saw that they were not acting in line with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas in front of them all, "You are a Jew, yet you live like a Gentile and not like a Jew. How is it, then, that you force Gentiles to follow Jewish customs?"

- Galatians 2:14

The gospel is to be applied to every area of _____, feeling, _____, working, and _____.

Implications and Applications

Implication #1 - The power of the gospel.

1. The Gospel is the _____ of God

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile.

- Romans 1:16

2. The Gospel is the _____ of God

I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings.

- 1 Corinthians 9:23

3. The Gospel is the _____ of God

The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ.

- 2 Corinthians 4:4-6

3. The Gospel has _____

that has come to you. In the same way, the gospel is bearing fruit and growing throughout the whole world—just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and truly understood God's grace.

- Colossians 1:6

Implication #2 - The sufficiency of the gospel.

The Gospel is not _____ but A to Z.
Justification, _____, Glorification

You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? Before your very eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed as crucified. I would like to learn just one thing from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by believing what you heard? Are you so foolish? After beginning by means of the Spirit, are you now trying to finish by means of the flesh?

- Galatians 3:1-3

Sinful people – Jesus people – Good people.
WRONG

Sinful people – Jesus people.

“Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

- Acts 20:32

"The truth of the Gospel is the principle article of all Christian doctrine....Most necessary is it that we know this article well, teach it to others, and beat it into their heads continually."

– Martin Luther

How to apply the Gospel?

“Which of the two did what his father wanted?” “The first,” they answered. Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you.

-Matthew 21:31

So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, the bad as well as the good, and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

-Matthew 22:10

Two ways we can steal the power of the gospel

1. Moralist or _____ (religion)
2. _____ (irreligion)

Moralist stresses truth without _____.
Relativist stresses grace without _____.

GROUP DISCUSSION

I. Share

- a) *what helped you most, and*
- b) *what puzzled you.*

2. Now try to think through the following three subjects to come to a gospel-based position. In each case, distinguish the moralist view, the hedonist/relativist view, and a gospel view:

On sex/ pre-marital sex

Your victory group member is smoking and drinking

When someone is suffering

When a person says he can't forgive himself

3. Before concluding, select one personal problem or issue in your life. During the next week, pray and reflect and fill out the following form:

- a. *The moralistic way to handle this:*
- b. *The hedonistic way to handle this:*
- c. *The gospel way to handle this:*

Part three: The Gospel in Discipleship

Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

-Matthew 28:16-20

"To be a Puritan was to look forward to the glory that is to come and to prepare for a good death—that would be the last act of a life of good and faithful discipleship."

– J.I. Packer

Discipleship is _____ **Jesus**, _____ with believers and _____ for men.

*For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the **power of God for salvation to everyone who believes**, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed—from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."*

-Romans 1:16-17

Past tense = you have been saved.

Discipleship application:

1. Do I truly believe in the power of the gospel to save me from the penalty of sin?
2. How often do I feel guilty for my past or the things I do now and try to deal it by doing spiritual stuff?
3. What are some good things I have been using as a means to find favor with God?

Present Tense = by faith.

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed _____ for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."

- Romans 1:16-17

The gospel is not just about what Christ has done but what Christ is _____ now.

Discipleship application:

1. Do you have any unbelief in your life?
2. What does the gospel say about this area in your life?
3. What about the gospel are you not believing in this area of your life?

Future Tense: For faith.

For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith _____ as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."

-Romans 1:17

Discipleship Application:

1. Are you okay when God calls you to start a Victory group for His glory that will fail?
 2. Are you okay if you experience a Job moment or a Habakkuk moment and its fine because you are in Christ?
 3. Are we leading people to live powerfully obedient lives empowered by the Spirit of God?
- do we apply the future reality of the gospel to their present fears?

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

- Matthew 28:19-20

Gospel = What _____ has done makes you who you are not what you have done.

So many people are being defined by these 3 things:

1. What they have done. – pride or depression
2. What has been done to them – victims
3. What they do – success or failure

