

- What event or occasion are you looking forward to? How are you preparing for it?
- What is one dream that you have for your life? How are you going to reach for that dream?
- In your current situation, what will you consider as good news? Why?

WORD

²¹Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. ²²But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation—²³if you continue in your faith, established and firm, and do not move from the hope held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant.

COLOSSIANS 1:21-23

WHAT

People have different views of the gospel. Some know it as the first four books of the New Testament. Others see it as another Bible tale. But for those who have put their faith in it, the gospel is the greatest story of Christ's exemplary life, sacrificial death, and powerful resurrection, which transforms those who live by its power. The way we understand the gospel impacts our past, present, and even our future. What is the gospel?

1 The gospel is the power of God that saves those who believe.

I am not ashamed of the gospel because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. ROMANS 1:16

The gospel is the essence of our salvation. We are saved when we believe in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus and not by the good works that we do because we are all sinners. We live everyday with the hope of God's salvation. When and how is the gospel at work in our lives?

2 The gospel gives us power for spiritual renewal and for overcoming life's problems.

¹⁶Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. ¹⁷For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. 2 CORINTHIANS 4:16,17

The gospel has power that renews us inwardly everyday in a sinful world. As we live it out, it empowers us to overcome not only the trials of life but also our sinful nature. Even when we grow old and weak, the power of the gospel leads us to spiritual renewal that displays the eternal glory that comes from God. The fullness of this glory will be revealed when Jesus Christ comes again. Why is it important to be spiritually renewed daily?

3 The gospel secures us of a bright future that leads to eternity with Jesus Christ.

²⁴To him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy—²⁵to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen. JUDE 24,25

If our faith is hinged on the gospel, we will never be shaken no matter what happens. Through the power of the gospel, we can walk blamelessly before God. We can anticipate a future that is blessed and victorious because Jesus Christ has already won the victory for us on the cross. We can look forward to living for eternity with Jesus. Why is our future full of hope?
