

Eisenhower Church of Christ

What is the Gospel?

Etymologically speaking, the word “Gospel” is derived from the Anglo-Saxon word “godspell” which meant “good story” or “God’s story.” In the early Greek, it was defined to mean “a present given to one who brought good tidings.” By the time of the writing of the New Testament, the Koine Greek word *euaggelion* simply meant “good news.” The word *euaggelion* is the root form from which the word “Gospel” is translated. Today, the word “Gospel” is most often explained to simply mean “good news.” Though the word “Gospel” is somewhat easily defined, one still needs to delve into the matter to see what the “good news” is, and why it is “good news.”

In the Bible, the word “Gospel” is used pertaining to various things. Mark used the term descriptively of the life of Jesus Christ when he wrote, “The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God” (Mark 1:1). Luke, recording Paul’s oration to the elders of Ephesus, used the word “Gospel” in Acts 20:24 to embrace all the teachings of Christ. Thus, what Jesus did and what Jesus said is Gospel. Those things that Jesus said and did were exactly the will of God the Father. Jesus said, “For I am come down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me” (John 5:38). Further, He stated, “My teaching is not mine, but his that sent me” (John 7:16). After Jesus returned to sit at the right hand of God, the Holy Spirit was sent to bring a remembrance of the teaching of Christ and to confirm that which was taught through the bestowal of miraculous gifts. Therefore, the Gospel in a generic definition would mean “the deeds and the doctrine of the deity; the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Specifically, three accomplishments of Jesus Christ are referred to as “the gospel” by the apostle Paul. Writing to the church of God at Corinth, Paul said, “Now I make known unto you, brethren, the gospel which I preached unto you, for I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; and that he was buried, and that he hath been raised on the third day according to the scriptures” (I Corinthians 15:1-4). Christ’s death, burial, and resurrection is good news because of what it means to the alien sinner. Atonement, reconciliation, justification, sanctification, propitiation, and salvation are afforded through the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Martin Luther wrote, “But the gospel is such doctrine of the word of God that neither requires our works nor commands us to do anything, but announces the offered grace of the forgiveness of sins and eternal salvation. Here we do nothing, but only receive what is offered through the word.” On this point the great Reformer is wrong! Inspired writers (Paul and Peter) warn that the Gospel must be obeyed, otherwise one will be lost. Compare 2 Thessalonians 1:5-9 and I Peter 4:17. One obeys commandments; therefore, within the Gospel there are commandments which must be obeyed. Also, there is something one must do. Note Acts 2:37; 16:30; 22:10– the “What must I do?” passages. Jesus Himself said, “Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father who is in heaven” (Matthew 7:21.) Yes, the Gospel “announces the offered grace of the forgiveness of sins and eternal salvation,” but it also declares what one must do to obtain that grace and what one must do in order to keep from falling from that grace.

Please bear in mind that there is one, and only one, Gospel, and it is not to be perverted (Galatians 1:6-9). Only the unperverted Gospel of Christ is “the power of God unto salvation”

(Romans 1:16). That is the Gospel that must be preached, believed and obeyed (Mark 16:15-16). In that Gospel is contained what God has done for man and what He will have man to do. It is a Melancthon stated: "The gospel is the gratuitous promise of the remission of sins for Christ's sake." Salvation has been provided as a free gift from God. It is up to man to comply with the commandments and conditions of the Gospel in order to obtain that free gift of salvation. Hebrews 5:8-9 states that Jesus Christ is the Author of eternal salvation (that is Gospel), unto all them that obey Him (that is Gospel too)!

—Tommy J. Hicks

Sympathy

Our sympathy goes out to **Connie Phelps'** family. Connie lost her battle with colon cancer Friday, April 15th at her home in Whitehouse, TX. Keep this family in your prayers. Connie was a close friend to Juli Marshall.

Our sympathy goes out to Jack Wright in the loss of his cousin, **Nadine Sartin**. Nadine passed away late last Saturday night, April 16th. She lived in Las Cruces, N.M. A memorial service was planned.

Prayer Requests

Lee Roy Bell underwent surgery Tuesday morning, April 19th at Odessa Regional Medical Center. The toe next to his small toe had to be amputated because of an infection due to diabetes. He is in room #415.

James Weaver was taken to the ER at MCH Friday, April 15th due to a high fever, high blood pressure and hip pain. He was diagnosed with congestive heart failure. However, James still has the pain in his hip and is being checked out. He is in Room #428.

Betty Branson has been in a lot of pain since last Thursday, April 14th. She had two different doctor appointments and received antibiotics and a steroid shot.

Charles Simmons is scheduled for surgery Wednesday, April 20th in San Angelo. This surgery is to remove wires that went undetected from his last surgery. Charles has been in terrible pain and muscle spasms for a long time. **Susan Simmons** is requesting prayers for Charles as well as herself as she needs to be better able to control her diabetes. Keep them both in your prayers.

Brendon Shook (a close friend to Haley Erwin) is having some serious health problems at this time. All his bloodwork is in the abnormal range. Brendon is undergoing more testing. Prayers have been requested for him.

Concerns Update

Helen Jones is doing much better now.

Prayer List

Lee Roy Bell; Susan Bosse; Mack Bradford; Betty Branson; Bobbie Braun; Neva Carrigan; Steve Chavez; Zane Chism; Dayton Dennard; James & Joyce Drake; Todd Drake; John Ford; Bill Gibbons; Hattie Gilmore; Anna Groves; Linda Horton; Bobby Hunt; Bryan Jernigan; Charles & Helen Jones; Mariah Lee; Susan Lee; Tracy Leeth; Connie Lowe; Jill McAfee; Elder McCarty; Anna McGlothlin; Patty Montgomery; Russ Montgomery; Juan & Estella Morolez; Julie Munoz; Laura Olivas; Connie Phelps; Earlene Poses; Elvia Ruckman; Montrella Ruffner; Andrew Schwarz; Brendon Shook; Brenda Simmons; James Singleterry; Bob Spurlin; Meta Troutz; Lisa Wells; Toya Zambelli

Eisenhower's Shut-ins

Neva Carrigan; Roberta Hamil; Janice Laminack; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Maxine Newton; Janelle Shirley; Wilma Squire and Lester Whisenant.

Remember to keep all of our sick, shut-ins, the bereaved, our military personnel and the spiritually weak in your daily prayers.

Events

Rudy and Emma Ochoa are hosting a **"Family Devotional"** Friday, April 29th at 6:30 at their home. Please check with Emma if you would like to bring something.

All ladies 60 years and up is invited to...*The Steel Magnolias' Spring Tea*, Saturday, May 7th between 10:30 a.m.—12 p.m. The tea is being hosted by The Teenage Girl's Class. RSVP to the sign-up sheet in the east foyer.

"Strengthening the Family" Group #4 will have their meeting and a meal today following the evening service. All visitors are invited.

Youth

Bible Quiz Question...

What is a talent?

Last Week's Bible Quiz answer...

Stephen's last words just before he died were... "Lord, do not hold this sin against them."

FYI

Watch **"In Search of the Lord's Way"** every Sunday morning at 6:30 am on KOSA, channel 7.

Also, tune in to hear a message from the Brown Trail Church of Christ on the **"Speaking the Truth in Love"** program every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. on ABC.

Graduation Shower...

Natalynn Wood's graduation shower is today between 2:00-4:00 p.m. in the annex. Everyone is invited to come and help us celebrate this milestone in her life.

Office News

The **"New Mexico Children's Home"** will be back in Odessa Tuesday, May 31st, 2016 for a food pick up. They are requesting **Real Mayonnaise**. Also, coin cans are on the table in the east foyer to use for money donations.

April 24, 2016

Announcements
Song Leader
Sermon
Opening Prayer
Scripture
Second Prayer
Closing Prayer

A.M.

Larry May
Craig Wesson
Allen Weakland
Larry May
Tony Marrs
Jeff Wesson
John Carroll

P.M.

Larry May
Casey Cleveland
Allen Weakland
Larry May
Isaiah Armendarez
Jacob Carson
Bill Brown

Lord's Supper

West...

Jacob Carson

Bill Ryan

Dex Dennard

East...

Don Easlon

Charles Wood

Dylan Straw

John Wood

Communion

(In Library)

Other Responsibilities: *Elder* : Larry May 638-3990; *Deacon*: Josh Wells 770-6753; *Pulpit*: Tom Sorenson 631-2518; *Table*: John Wood 415-7444; *Song Leaders*: Denny Wilson 325-340-2291; *Recording Duties*: Chris Butler 362-7486; *Collections*: Chris Butler 362-7486

Sunday AM

"Decisive Steps"

(1 Samuel 7:1-5)

Sunday PM

"Pain Leads to Prayer"

(James 5:13-18)

Our Records

Bible Class... 76

*Morning Worship...*125

*Evening Worship...*78

*Wednesday...*92

Contribution...\$4,219.00

