

**CALL to PRAYER** -

## Lord's Prayer / Model Prayer

Intro - The question we are considering today is "*What is the Gospel?*" The answer, or definition could be as big as the Bible, yet it could be summed up in a single verse. More than that - the gospel can be defined by a single word...a single name - Jesus. JESUS IS THE GOSPEL. In world full of bad news, it is good to have some good news, and JESUS IS THAT GOOD NEWS. Our God is so good. He is the God of all grace. As soon as mankind brought bad news upon themselves God promised some good news. The good news for sinners is that there is a Savior. The good news for the wicked is that they can be declared righteous and have all their wickedness atoned for. I hope you know the gospel, think about the gospel, embrace the gospel, obey the gospel <sup>2 Thess. 1:8</sup> and believe the gospel. <sup>Mark 1:14-15</sup>

**Romans 1:1-7 - Definitions 17 - What is the Gospel?****THE ETYMOLOGY**

1. The Greek word for "gospel" is "*euangelion*" (Evangel / evangelist / evangelical)
  - a. The "good news"...or the person who brings the "good news."
  - b. We are called "*evangelical Christians*" because we believe, and spread, the gospel
2. Our English word "*gospel*" comes from the Anglo-Saxon word "*godspel*"
  - a. "*Godspel*" literally it means "*God's story*." God's spell / tale / tidings / story / news
    - i. The gospel is God's story. The gospel is God's news
    - ii. Romans 1:1 - "*The gospel of God*" (Jesus preached the "gospel of God" - Mark 1:14-15)
  - b. The good news is that God has a message for man.
    - i. There is a story that every sinner needs to know. God's news is good news

**THE STORY**

- The story starts from the very beginning A good creation is ruined by man's bad decision
  - On the heels of sin comes the promise of a Savior - Gen. 3:15
    - The seed of the woman would crush the head of the serpent
    - A virgin would conceive and bear a son who is Immanuel - Is. 7:14
    - A child would be born and a son would be given - Is. 9:6
- Abraham was told this gospel....this good news from God
  - A promised son <sup>Gen. 15</sup>...believed the promise <sup>Gen. 15:6</sup>...sacrifice the son <sup>Gen. 22</sup>
  - God's gospel was preached to Abraham - Gal. 3:8
  - Abraham saw Jesus' day from afar and was glad - John 8:56
- In the OT the gospel was promised...prefigured ....and acted out in parable form
  - Like in Karate Kid - "*wax on...*" & "*sand the floor*" was teaching karate (unaware)
  - So too...through type, shadow & sacrifice God's gospel was dramatized by ritual for the people. But after the shadow and type come the fullness of light
  - Romans 1:1-4

- God's gospel...God's story is about His Son
  - Mark 1:1 Jesus is the gospel "Tell me the story of Jesus..."
  - The Four Gospels focus on the life & ministry of Jesus. His Person & work
  - There is no good news without Jesus. He is the Promised Son & Savior
  - The gospel story is as big as the Bible, but it is all about the Only Begotten Son
    - 66 books telling one story about one Person
- Do you know God's good news story about His Son?
  - Read a gospel in this season. (not just part of Luke 2 - it is all great news)
  - You can probably read Mark in the time it takes to watch a movie

### **THE THEOLOGY**

- It is important to know the meaning of the God's story
  - It is easy for the meaning of a story to get lost or be misunderstood
  - The devil wants to distort and corrupt the story
- The Scripture tells us what the story means
  - 1 Cor. 15:1-5 The story happened "*according to the Scriptures*"
    - His death was no ordinary death - it meant and accomplished something
    - His resurrection is full of meaning and absolutely certain results
  - The Promised Son was sent to be a Substitute for sinners
  - Jesus is the Redeemer, Savior and Judge and He was judged in place of sinners so the believing sinner might be justly judged as being righteous in God's sight.
- God's gospel addresses the issue of **RIGHTEOUSNESS** and **REPRESENTATION**
  - Rom. 5:12, 18-19 (the big, overarching storyline)
    - Adam's sin brought condemnation & death to all who are in him
    - Jesus' obedience brought righteousness & life to all who are in Him
      - 1 Cor. 15:22
  - It is bad news if Adam is your representative
  - It is good news if Jesus is your representative
- 2 Cor. 5:21
  - I would pick this verse as the summary of the gospel - The gospel in a nutshell
  - God sent His Son to be a Substitute for sinners (a Representative)
  - Jesus was sinless (born under the law but fulfilled all the law)
  - Jesus took a foreign sin upon Himself
    - God punished His Son in our place Is. 53:5-6
  - The good news of the gospel is that there is a GOSPEL SWAP
    - We become the righteousness of God in Him! (Justification)
    - We receive His righteousness by faith - Rom. 1:16-17 (Gen. 15:6)
- The good new is that God sent His Only Begotten Son in to the world to be the sinless Substitute, Redeemer & Savior of sinners. And for whosoever believeth - Jesus pays for all their wickedness and He gives them all of His righteousness.