

discipleship essentials

Essentials for Christian Living
Leader's Guide

INTRODUCTION TO EVANGELISM

LESSON 9: WHAT IS THE GOSPEL TRUTH – GOD'S SOLUTION

INTRODUCTION

This lesson is part of a Discipleship Essentials module entitled Introduction to Evangelism. This series of lessons aims to prepare participants to effectively share the Gospel with others. Understanding how God equips us for ministry and how to prepare our Gospel message for various worldviews will help us bring the unchanging message of the hope found in Jesus Christ to a world that does not yet know Him.

INTENDED AUDIENCE

The intended audience for these lessons is new Christians, those who would like a refresher on the basics of Christianity, as well as those preparing to teach these Christian practices and beliefs. Also, those with an interest in Christian thought will find value in these lessons as they pertain to daily living and choices.

The Leader's Guide is intended to help you as a leader in your preparation. These lesson outlines may be used in conjunction with other Discipleship Essentials materials found online at www.discipleshipessentials.org.

Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version® (ESV®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

All other content is © 2019 Trans World Radio Canada, and may be used in any way you like as long as you use it with the purpose of reaching the world for Christ and do not charge for the use of the material. See more license details at www.discipleshipessentials.org/licensing.



INTRODUCTION TO EVANGELISM

LESSON 9: WHAT IS THE GOSPEL TRUTH – GOD'S SOLUTION

PURPOSE

The purpose of this lesson is to highlight Jesus Christ as the solution to our sin problem. This lesson outlines how God defeats death, and it clarifies why Jesus had to suffer on our behalf.

LEADER'S NOTE

The focus of this lesson is the solution God gave to our sin problem – His own Son Jesus Christ. To understand the sacrificial death of Christ, participants need to be aware of how God dealt with sin throughout the Old Testament. It is important to review this with participants. God required blood sacrifices to forgive sin. In this we see a picture of the destruction sin caused (death), and an action that demonstrated repentance. Repentance was always required ([Hebrews 10:4](#)). You may wish to examine the story in [Genesis 22](#) of God requiring Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac. At the last moment, God provided a ram in his place. This is a picture of God providing the sacrifice for us.

INTRODUCTION

Select two or three of the following questions to ask the group.

- ❖ Have you ever been a part of a rescue effort (like rescuing a person or even an animal from danger)? What kind of plan was necessary in the rescue? Who was involved?
- ❖ Why were people drawn towards Jesus wherever He went? What was it about Him that people loved?
- ❖ What are some of the unique characteristics of Jesus – things that only Jesus is?

STUDY

TEACH

- ❖ **God's Plan to Save the World:** God always planned to save the world, even when Adam and Eve sinned. Throughout the Old Testament, God offers a promise of salvation ([Isaiah 9:6; 53:5-12](#)).
 - God tells Satan how he would be defeated after deceiving Adam and Eve in [Genesis 3:15](#). This was the first prophecy related to Christ. It is important to know God had this plan from the beginning.
 - [John 3:16](#) tells us that it is because of God's great love for the people He made that He chose to rescue them!



- ❖ **Jesus Enters the World:** God's way of salvation was through Jesus Christ. Jesus entered the world not as a prince of high birth, with riches, power, and luxury, but was born to a poor family – a young mother and a carpenter father.
 - God sent Himself – as the second member of the Trinity – to live a human life. The Bible tells us in 1 Timothy 3:16 that God took on flesh. He existed as a member of the Trinity long before He entered the world. Isaiah 9:6 tells us the birth of the child Jesus was the giving of the Son of God to earth, not His creation.
 - Jesus became a man, born of the Virgin Mary. He was named Jesus (Hebrews 2:14-15; Matthew 1:21).
 - Jesus lived a perfect life on earth (1 Peter 2:22; Hebrews 4:1-15). He did not sin, there was no deceit found in His mouth, He did not fall prey to temptation.
 - Jesus died on the cross to fulfill the prophecies and became the perfect sacrifice (Ephesians 5:2; 1 Peter 2:24).
- ❖ **Jesus Defeats the Power of Satan and Death:**
 - Because of Adam's disobedience, death came to all men. Every person born is guilty of sin, and cannot escape the punishment that is due us: death and separation from God (spiritual death).
 - Jesus willingly laid down His life for us so that we would not have to bear the consequences of Adam's sin and ours. He suffered, was crucified, died, and was laid in a tomb.
 - Jesus rose from the grave on the third day, thereby defeating death (1 Corinthians 15:4, 17-18). He not only defeated physical death, but also spiritual death that was pronounced on all of us. He defeated the power of Satan and now Satan has no authority over us!

TASK

- ❖ Examine Colossians 1:13-14 as a group. "He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins."
 - If we have received salvation, what "kingdom" are we in? What are the benefits of this kingdom?
 - How should this fact change how we see the powers of darkness, the threat of death or sin?



DISCUSSION

- ❖ How can you live the Gospel message in your life? What difference does it make to you on a day-to-day basis?
- ❖ What changed in your life when you received salvation (thoughts, actions, attitudes, circumstances, etc.)?
- ❖ Why was it essential for Jesus Christ to rise from the dead? What did this demonstrate or accomplish?
- ❖ If we, through Christ's sacrifice, are transferred to the Kingdom of Light, what is that kingdom like? What are the duties of the citizens? Who is in charge? What is the purpose of the kingdom of God?

PRAYER

Close the lesson in prayer. Thank God for the gift of His Son and forgiveness of sins. This is good news indeed! God provided the sacrifice we could not make ourselves. Thank God that He has made a way for us to get back into relationship with Him. Pray that participants would know the love of God more in understanding the Gospel, and that it would compel them to share this good news with those around them.