

discipleship essentials

Essentials for Christian Living
Study Guide

INTRODUCTION TO EVANGELISM

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

INTRODUCTION

This lesson is part of a Disciple Essentials module titled 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.

The Study Guide is intended for an individual to look deeper into a specific lesson on their own. The lessons can be used in conjunction with other Discipleship Essentials materials, such as the video and audio productions found on www.discipleshipessentials.org.

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INTRODUCTION TO EVANGELISM

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

WHAT IS IT ABOUT?

The purpose of this lesson is to prove that Jesus Christ is the solution to our sin problem. The lesson explains how God defeated death, and it clarifies why Jesus had to die on our behalf.

JUST SO YOU KNOW...

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, you will need to be aware of how God dealt with sin throughout the Old Testament. God required blood sacrifices to forgive sin. In this we see a picture of the destruction sin caused (death). 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.

GETTING STARTED

1. 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?

2. Why were people drawn towards Jesus wherever He went? What was it about Him that people loved?



STUDY

- ❖ **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.

- How does God tell Satan he would be defeated after deceiving Adam and Eve? Read Genesis 3:15.

This is the first prophecy related to Jesus, among many. It is important to know God had a plan from the beginning. This verse might sound cryptic, but it means that a 'seed of woman' (Jesus) would someday be bruised by Satan (injured, but not destroyed), but that Satan, in the end, will be 'crushed'. This verse predicts the victory that Jesus has over Satan.

- ❖ **JESUS ENTERS THE WORLD:** God's way of salvation was through Jesus Christ. Jesus did not enter the world 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: God the Son – as the second person of the Trinity – came to earth to live a human life. What does the Bible tell us in 1 Timothy 3:16?

- Did God the Son exist before He was born as a man? Yes! Jesus came to the earth, having existed as God, and everything was created by Him (Colossians 1:15-17).
- God's Son became a man, born of the Virgin Mary. He was named Jesus .
- Jesus lived a perfect life on earth. 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. What do Ephesians 5:2 and 1 Peter 2:24 say about this sacrifice?



❖ **JESUS DEFEATS THE POWER OF SATAN AND DEATH:** The Good News is that Jesus came, our rescuer, to take the punishment we deserved, to satisfy the justice of God and to pronounce us forgiven!

- Because of Adam’s disobedience, death came to all human beings (Romans 5:12-21). Every person born is guilty of sin, and cannot escape the punishment that we deserve: 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 our sin. He suffered, was crucified, died, and was laid in a tomb.
- Jesus rose from the grave on the third day, thereby defeating death. He not only conquered 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!
- Summarize what 1 Corinthians 15:1-28 says:

❖ **THE NEW KINGDOM:** The Gospel, God's good news, is that there is hope for eternal life, and forgiveness for our sin through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. What is required of us is to have faith that Jesus is the Son of God, that He died and rose again for the forgiveness of our sins, and to confess with our mouth that Jesus is our Lord. Our faith is credited to us as righteousness, our sins are forgiven and we are made a new person in Christ Jesus!

- Read Colossians 1:13-14.

If we have received salvation, what “kingdom” are we in?	
What changes take place in our life when we move into this kingdom?	
How should this fact change how we see the powers of darkness,	



and the threat of death or sin?	
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- If we, through Christ’s sacrifice, are transferred to the Kingdom of Light, what is that kingdom like? What are the duties of its citizens? Who is in charge? What is the purpose of the Kingdom of God?

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IN SUMMARY

- ❖ God had a plan to save the world even before Adam and Eve sinned. God offered the promise of salvation throughout the Old Testament.
- ❖ Jesus was not created or conceived in the natural way – but had always eternally existed as God.
- ❖ God took on flesh when Jesus Christ was born. Years later He died for our sins and took on Himself the punishment that we deserved.
- ❖ Jesus defeated the power of sin and death by His death and resurrection.
- ❖ We can now be forgiven by putting our faith in Jesus Christ, and can be transferred from the kingdom of darkness and sin into the Kingdom of Light.



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. How can you live the Gospel message in your life? What difference does it make to you on a day-to-day basis?

2. What changed in your life when you received salvation (thoughts, actions, attitudes, circumstances, etc.)?