

DISCUSSION GUIDE

THE GOSPEL
Colossians — Week 9

ICEBREAKER: If you were to write a book about your life, what would it be called?

OVERVIEW: This week we are studying the gospel. The word “gospel” means “good news.” The gospel is the good news of Jesus Christ. The gospel is *good* news. It is the best news. What would be the best news you could ever hear? Imagine if someone told you that you just inherited millions of dollars. Imagine if you had a deadly disease, and someone told you that they had discovered a cure. The gospel trumps all of that. It is the best news you could ever hear. Let’s dig deeper and learn all about the gospel of our salvation.

1. **Read Colossians 1:5-8.** What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend’s message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday’s message?)
2. What is the gospel of Jesus Christ?
3. Colossians 1:5 says, “because of the hope reserved for you in heaven. You have already heard about this hope in the word of truth, the gospel.” The Biblical idea of hope is confident assurance, not merely wishful thinking. What is the hope reserved for Christians in heaven (see Titus 1:2)? How does the gospel give you hope in life?
4. Read Colossians 1:4-5. Notice that Paul wrote that the believers were empowered to love one another (all the saints) because of their hope. How does the hope of the gospel empower us to love each other more?

5. Colossians 1:5 calls the gospel “the word of truth.” How do we know that the gospel is true?
6. Read Colossians 1:6. When did the gospel bear fruit among the saints in Colossae? What does it mean to “truly appreciate God’s grace”?
7. Read Colossians 1:7-8. Who was Epaphras, and what did he do? What can we learn about the gospel from the example of Epaphras? Who can you share the gospel with?
8. Who can you share the gospel with?

The Last Word: The gospel in four words: Creation. Corruption. Cross. Choice.