**Equip Class**

**Relational Evangelism in Everyday Life**

**Session 4- The Gospel**

**\*Take about 10 minutes to work through these Bible Study questions before listening to Session 4.**

**Bible Study – Acts 2:22-41**

*Read Acts 2:22-41*

**What does Peter say in verses 22-24 about:**

* Jesus’ life
* Jesus’ death
* Jesus’ resurrection

**How does he challenge the people (v. 23, 36)?**

**How do they react to the news that this Jesus is ‘both Lord and Messiah’—both God, and the promised King (v. 36-37)**

**What does Peter call them to do in response to the news that Jesus is the risen Lord and Messiah (v. 38-40)**

**What are three essential points of the gospel that we see in verses 22-24?**

**Peter was talking to the Jews who had been in Jerusalem at the time of Jesus’ death. The people we talk to are in a very different situation! How would you say the same truths as Peter, and make the same call as Peter, in a way that would connect with those live and work around you?**

**Session 4 – The Gospel**

**Explain the gospel in your own words.**

**1 Corinthians 15:1-11**

1. The Gospel must be preached (15:1)
2. The Gospel must be believed (15:1)
3. The Gospel is the sphere in which we live (15:1)
4. The Gospel is the message by which we are saved (15:2)
5. The Gospel is of first importance (15:3)
6. The Gospel is rooted in the Old Testament (15:3-4)
7. The Gospel is about Jesus—His death and His resurrection (15:3-4)
8. The Gospel is true (15:5-8)
9. The Gospel provides grace to work hard for Christ (15:9-11)

**What is the gospel?**

**The Gospel from the Ground**

**God**. God is the creator of all things (Gen. 1:1). He is perfectly holy, worthy of all worship, and will punish sin (1 John 1:5, Rev. 4:11, Rom. 2:5-8).

**Man**. All people are made in God’s image. We were made by God and for God. Though created good, have become sinful by nature (Gen. 1:26-28, Ps. 51:5, Rom. 3:23). From birth, all people are alienated from God, hostile to God, and subject to the wrath of God (Eph. 2:1-3).

**Christ**. Jesus Christ, who is fully God and fully man, lived a sinless life, died on the cross in our place and for our sin, and rose from the grave in order to give his people eternal life (John 1:1, 1 Tim. 2:5, Heb. 7:26, Rom. 3:21-26, 2 Cor. 5:21, 1 Cor. 15:20-22).

**Response**. God calls everyone everywhere to repent of their sins and trust in Christ in order to be saved (Mark 1:15, Acts 20:21, Rom. 10:9-10).

**The Gospel in the Air**

**Creation – Genesis 1-2; Psalm 19:1-4.** In the beginning, God made all things. Everything was good. At the center of his creation was humanity—Adam and Eve—made in His image, made to know and enjoy Him forever. All of creation existed in perfect harmony—no pain, no suffering, no death. There was complete love, acceptance, and intimacy between God and man, between Adam and Eve, and throughout creation. But things didn’t stay that way.

**Fall – Genesis 3; Romans 1:18-32; 3:9-20.** The creation rebelled against their Creator. Adam and Eve, representing all humanity, rejected God’s rule over them. They decided to go their own way and choose for themselves what was right and wrong. Nothing is now the way it was supposed to be. Sin brought about separation and death. We see this in our relationship with God, our relationships with one another, and within creation itself. We have fallen not merely from what we were created for—to know and worship God, but we have fallen from our Creator. We have fallen short of God’s glory.

**Redemption – Genesis 3:15; 12; 17:1-10; Exodus 12; 2 Samuel 7; Isaiah 42:1-4; 53:4-11; Matthew 26-28; Luke 22-24; John 1:1-18; 3:1-21; Acts 2; Romans 3; Ephesians 2:1-10.** God does not leave His creation in their rebellion. He provides a remedy, a way of salvation. It starts with a promise to Eve, the offspring of Eve would make right what had gone wrong. In the Old Testament, we see God’s plan for redemption most clearly through His dealing with Israel—the calling of Abraham, their deliverance from Egypt, the sacrificial system, the temple, the kings, even exile. God has always intended for salvation to be by grace through faith in God’s promise and provision. The Old Testament is a story in search of ending. Jesus Christ is that ending, the fulfillment of all of God’s promises and the true and final source of redemption. He is the offspring of Eve who will undo the curse. He is the offspring of Abraham who brings blessings to all nations. He is the offspring of David who establishes God’s kingdom. He obeys where Israel disobeyed. He suffers innocently for the guilty. He bears God’s judgment so that we might be forgiven. He rose from the death, assuring us of the new life and eternity found in Him. One day, He will come again and make all things right. The world will once more be as it should be—as God intended it be.

**Restoration – Acts 1:6-11; Romans 8; Ephesians 1: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11; Hebrews 12:18-29; 2 Peter 3:1-13; Revelation 21-22. -** Everything will be restored to the way it was meant to be. The new earth will once again be the perfect home God intended for His creation. God’s original purpose will flourish, as those who trust in His rescue will enter into the grand purpose of worshipping Him by loving Him, serving Him, and enjoying relationship with Him forever.

**Reflection and Discussion**

Take a few minutes to review your explanation of the gospel. Does the overview from this session help clarify or strengthen your explanation of the gospel? If so, how?

In pairs, take turns explaining the gospel to each other. After one run through, seek to explain the gospel in one minute.