

SHARING THE GOSPEL SEMINAR



Bible Study Fellowship®

BSF Mission

Global, in-depth Bible studies producing passionate commitment to Christ, His Word, and his Church.

BSF Vision – Magnify GOD and mature His people



Agenda

- How did we get to the Gospel?
- What is the Gospel?
- Why and how do we share the Gospel?



5 Key Biblical Covenants

- **Noahic Covenant:** GOD would not flood mankind again.
- **Abrahamic Covenant:** 1) He would make a great nation and a great name 2) Through him GOD would give blessings to all peoples
- **Mosaic Covenant:** Obedience to the law brings blessing; curses if ignored
- **Davidic Covenant:** GOD promises to provide a faithful descendant of David to reign.
- **New Covenant:** GOD would forgive his people's sin through the outpouring of his own blood (Matt 26:28)



Isaiah 40:8

**The grass withers, the flower fades, but the
word of our GOD will stand forever.**



The 4 Truths of the Gospel

1. The TRUTH about GOD
2. The TRUTH about sin
3. The TRUTH about Jesus Christ – who he is and what he has done
4. The TRUTH about man's reasonable response and GOD's power to live a transformed life



The TRUTH about GOD

God is the holy Creator with all authority over His creation (Genesis 1:1)

- We owe our very existence to Him (Acts 17:25).
- We are always in His hands and under His watchful eye (Psalm 139:7–12).
- We were created by Him to worship Him and serve Him (Matthew 4:10).
- We are to live for His glory (Romans 11:36).

Truth: We are absolutely dependent upon God, our holy Creator, who has an absolute claim on us



The TRUTH about sin

Sin is an offense against God and separates us from Him (Isaiah 59:1–2)

- All people have sinned by falling short of God's standard (Romans 3:23) and by rebelling against God's specific commands and authority (Exodus 20:1–17; Matthew 22:37–40)
- We are basically bad, which makes us do bad things or fail to do good things (Romans 7:18). We feel guilty for specific wrong things done or good things left undone (Psalms 32:1–5; 38:4)
- All people need to be made right with God. All are guilty, helpless in sin, and are under God's wrath (Romans 1:18; 3:10–12). Nothing we do can bring us into God's favor (Romans 3:20)
- We earn death by our sin (Romans 6:23)

Truth: Our sin separates (alienates) us from God and we need to be reconciled to Him



The TRUTH about Jesus Christ

His Incarnation

Jesus of Nazareth is God the Son who was made man to save sinners according to His Father's eternal purpose (John 1:14; Colossians 1:19). Jesus Christ's words and life reveal the nature of God. Jesus Christ lived a life of perfect obedience to God.

His Death

Jesus lived as a man in order to die for men. He took the guilt of sinners upon Himself and endured God's judgment for it in His death on the cross. His death satisfied God's just anger against sinful, rebellious people. By His suffering and death, He bore away the world's sins (John 1:29, 36; Hebrews 9:27–28). His death demonstrates God's grace and love (Romans 5:8).

His Resurrection

Jesus was raised from the dead (Acts 2:24), proving that He conquered sin and death and vindicating His life of perfect obedience.



The TRUTH about Jesus Christ

His Exaltation

Jesus ascended to the right hand of God where He reigns as King or Lord of all (Hebrews 1:3; Matthew 28:18; Ephesians 1:20–21). He freely and sovereignly gives His righteousness to undeserving sinners who receive Him as their Savior and acknowledge Him as their Lord. He lives to save completely all who acknowledge Him as Lord (Hebrews 7:25)

Truth: Jesus Christ, the only God-Man, has provided the only way for sinful people to be reconciled to their Creator God



The TRUTH about man's reasonable response

- God's sovereignty in salvation does not negate man's responsibility
- Faith (belief, trust) — A response of faith is resting one's confidence on the promises of mercy that Christ has given to sinners—forgiveness of sin, assurance of going to heaven, and God's power for a new life that pleases God (Romans 12:1; Titus 3:4–7). This new life lasts forever (John 3:16). Faith is a gift of God (Ephesians 2:8).
 - Repentance is the evidence of true faith. Repentance is a change of mind and heart evidenced by a change of behavior—a new life of denying self and serving the Savior as King (Romans 12:2; Titus 3:8). Repentance is a settled refusal to set any limit to the claims Christ may make on your life. He is King and He has the right to expect whatever He desires from you.



The TRUTH about GOD's power to live a transformed life

- Transformation — Christ died so that Christians could die to sin and live for righteousness (1 Peter 2:24). Transformation from a life characterized by sin (disobedience) to a life characterized by righteousness (obedience) is only possible by drawing on the power of God. The Holy Spirit empowers Christians to be transformed in how they think and live so that they can please God (Romans 12:1–2; Ephesians 1:13–14, 19–20).

Truth: The only reasonable response to what God has done for you through Christ is threefold: faith in Christ, repentance, and drawing on God's power to live a transformed life



Appropriate questions to ask:

Based on the truths about God, sin, and Jesus Christ, what is your relationship to God?

In light of these truths, what is your response to God? • Will you now receive Jesus Christ as your Savior from sin and Lord of your life?

Saying, “Not yet,” is the same as saying, “No.” If you say, “Yes,” then begin to study the Bible to learn about God, Jesus Christ, and God’s power to transform your life.

Will you come to BSF with me to begin this important part of Christian growth?



The work of GOD for his people to do

John 6: 26-20 (NIV)

Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw the signs I performed but because you ate the loaves and had your fill.²⁷ Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on him God the Father has placed his seal of approval."

Then they asked him, "What must we do to do the works God requires?"

Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent."



Why do we share the Gospel?

1. God's love for us in providing a Savior (John 3:16)
2. Love for God and a desire to bring glory to Him (Matthew 22:37; John 14:15, 21) • We love God when we are grateful for His saving grace in our lives (1 John 4:9–11, 19)
 - God is glorified when we call attention to His character and His actions (Psalm 36:5)
 - God is glorified when we obey His commands (Matthew 28:19)
 - God is glorified when we tell others of His wondrous works of grace (Psalm 29:1)
3. Love for people and a concern for their welfare—now and in eternity (Matthew 22:39)



Look at how Jesus shared who he was...

- Through common everyday objects/thoughts:
 - Bread
 - Water
 - Light
 - Door
 - (Good) Shepherd
 - Resurrection and the Life
 - The Way, the Truth, the Life
 - (True) Vine



How do I prepare to share the Gospel?

1. Know how to present the four gospel truths, using simple language
2. Listen to what others say that leads to opportunities to speak of these truths.
3. Practice with family, friends, or church members to gain confidence



How do I prepare to share the Gospel? (cont)

4. Pray for myself and for lost people.
 - God will remind me of the dread of spending time and eternity without Him
 - God will cause me to grieve for those who are in that lost condition
 - God will enable me to speak honestly, simply, accurately, and naturally
 - God will make me sensitive to the opportunity to share the gospel.
 - God will put lost people in my life and prepare them to embrace the gospel.
5. Commit myself to a transformed life demonstrated by systematic Bible study, obedience, fellowship, accountability with other Christians, and interaction with unbelievers.



Know how to present the four gospel truths, using simple language

GOD: We were created by a holy and righteous GOD to worship and serve him.

SIN: We chose to serve ourselves and ignore his instructions, thus separating us from him.

We've earned death by our sin – the sin problem. Romans 6:23

JESUS: BUT....GOD has made a way to redeem us from sin, not by following a set a rule to earn his love, but from sending Jesus Christ, the Messiah, his son, the GOD-man, to live the perfect life we couldn't live and then freely give himself as the blood offering to redeem us now and forever from our sin penalty.

MAN'S RESPONSE: If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that GOD raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

This confession leads to repentance and drawing on the Holy Spirit to live a transformed life.



Some common questions

- Is it all on me to have the perfect Gospel presentation to ensure one comes to saving faith? Ephesians 2:8-9
- Must we earn the right to share the Gospel?
- Acts 8:27-31 (Phillip & the Ethiopian treasurer)
- In our Western world where certain sins are celebrated, how can we get on the same page of sin? Matthew 5-7

