



Gateway To Life Bible Studies

"And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified." (Acts 20:32)

LESSON 14

Paul and the Gospel

The Apostle Paul was a master at contextualizing the Gospel. He used what we call "an audience-sensitive approach" as he proclaimed the Gospel. The modern danger in shaping the Gospel to the audience is to so water it down that it loses its power. The other danger by assuming that a "fits all size" approach to evangelism is also wrong. Paul as inspired by the Spirit was able to hold on to that something that is "trans-contextual" – it is a non-negotiable message that suits all people. In this lesson we are going to look at Paul's theology of the Gospel as to identify those non-negotiables.

1. What was Paul's foundational motivation in evangelism? 2 Corinthians 5:14

2. What place did this passion for evangelism have in Paul's life? 1 Corinthians 9:23

3. Paul understood that this Gospel (*euangelion*) had its root in the Old Testament. Based upon Isaiah 40:9 and Isaiah 52:7. What are 4 good things about this Good News?
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.

4. Read the following passages and describe how Paul viewed the Gospel. (Romans 1:16; 1 Corinthians 9:16-18; 1 Thessalonians 1:5; & Colossians 1:5-6)
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
 - e.

- c. The question being answered in verse 29 is
- d. And what is the ULTIMATE purpose of that?
- e. What is the significance of being the "firstborn"?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

#1. In the questions above we've tried to talk about the Gospel. What is it include? What is it about? Now you are asked to describe, in your own words, the Gospel. Base you answer on the above questions. Notice, the question does not involve how to receive or appropriate the blessings of the Gospel, it is what is the Gospel?

#2. As we prepare, as a Church, to invite people to hear the Gospel through *Christianity Explored*, who do you plan on inviting? Will you share their names with others in the group and take some time to pray for one another?

#3. Please take time to pray for the upcoming movie presentation: Courageous. And please pray for the CE sessions. Pray for our hearts that our motivation will be out of love; for the invitees; and for all the work and planning that goes into this, that we may know the help and blessing of the Lord.

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