

## What is the Gospel?

*This is a short summary of the gospel. Click the link below to receive a small booklet with more information.*

### God

God is our creator, potentially our Father, and will be our judge.

*In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. (Genesis chapter 1 verse 1).*

The Genesis account reveals a good and all-powerful God who brought everything into existence and gave life to everything that has life by simply speaking a word. Life came from God, not from no one. Every human and all of creation are under his authority. But who is this God?

### Holiness

God is holy and morally perfect in his character. His requirement of man is perfect conformity to his character. God established a rule to govern the conduct of Adam and Eve and explained it to them clearly. God had the right to expect perfect obedience since he had created them.

### Sin

Sadly, sin entered the human race when Adam and Eve violated God's requirement of them. They rebelled against his authority over their lives essentially deciding to make themselves equal with God. They died that very day.

We too have sinned and are separated from God. This is the reason something is missing in our lives. Alienation from God is real and is intended to make us aware of our sin and to point us to God.

*For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. (Romans chapter 3 verse 23).*

### Judgment and Wrath

The righteous judgment of God and the holy wrath of God came down on Adam and Eve because of their sin. This is the reality for everyone born into the world after Adam and Eve. The punishment, "you shall surely die", was spiritual death, which meant separation from God immediately and eternal separation from God in the fires of hell. Thankfully, the story does not end there.

*"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life" (John chapter 3 verse 16).*

### The Cross and Resurrection

God sent his son, Jesus, who willingly came to earth to live a perfect and righteous life and to willingly die on the cross as a payment for our sins. On the cross, God's anger at sinners was directed at Jesus. The wrath all of us deserve was poured out on him. The holy justice of God and his settled anger at sin was fully satisfied. Jesus rose from the dead on the third day. His resurrection is a giant exclamation point in history that God accepted his payment for sin. His holy wrath against sinners is turned away.

## Grace

Grace means undeserved favor. None of us deserve God's mercy. God's holy wrath falling on us would be perfect justice. But God does the extraordinary thing – he extends kindness, “But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses...” (Ephesians chapter 2 verses 4-5).

*For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. (Ephesians chapter 2 verses 8-9).*

For those who repent and believe, he imputes to their account the righteousness of Jesus. But there is one more thing to think about before turning to Christ.

## The Cost of Following Christ

Before committing one's life to Christ, it is important to consider that because of the hostility toward people who follow God by those who reject God, there is a cost of following him. However, any difficulty we may encounter now is nothing compared to life in heaven with Christ for all of eternity.

*Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? (Luke chapter 14 verses 27-28).*

## Repentance and Faith

Jesus calls all of us to repentance and faith. He taught this throughout his earthly ministry.

*“The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel” (Mark chapter 1 verse 15).*

**Repentance** means to turn away from sin. It does not mean to never sin again. No one can do that. It does mean to have sorrow for sin, to have revulsion toward it, and to give it up.

**Faith** means turning to Christ to receive his gift of mercy and forgiveness. It means believing that Jesus is the Christ and placing oneself under his rule. He is Lord.

Jesus extends his invitation to anyone who recognizes their sinful condition. He welcomes anyone who acknowledges their complete inability to save themselves by their own efforts. Jesus is for all who desire God's forgiveness, repent of their sins, and place their trust in him.

*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. (Romans chapter 10 verse 9).*

## For More Information

If you would like to discuss this further or have questions, please contact us at [info@allsaintspres.net](mailto:info@allsaintspres.net). We would love to talk.

[Click here](#) to leave your mailing address if you would like to receive a small booklet and a copy of the Gospel of Mark free of charge. We promise not to spam you.