

What is the "Gospel"?

Something to think about before we begin:

Have you ever heard the modern mantra, "Preach the gospel; if necessary, use words"? Do you agree with the sentiment behind this simple statement? Why, or why not?

Romans 1:15-17; 10:13-17; 1 Corinthians 1:17-21; Galatians 1:6-12

According to Paul, how is the gospel conveyed to those who need to receive it in order to attain "the power of God for salvation"? [cp Romans 1:15-16; 10:14; 1 Corinthians 1:17, 21]

According to Paul, what is the gospel meant to *produce* in those who hear it? [cp Romans 1:16; 10:14, 17; 1 Corinthians 1:21]

According to Paul, is the gospel a fixed set of information, or is it something that is meant to "evolve" in response to the needs of each generation and culture? [cp Galatians 1:6-10]

1 Corinthians 15:1-8; 1 Corinthians 2:2

When the Corinthian Christians were struggling with believing the doctrine of the resurrection, what did Paul remind them of? [1 Corinthians 15:1-2]

What fixed set of information did Paul "remind" them that he had received and also taught to them? [1 Corinthians 15:3-4]

What did Paul say was the only thing he "decided to know" (i.e. *make known*) among the Corinthians? [1 Corinthians 2:2]

Acts 10:21-22, 24-27, 34-43; 11:13-14

Why did Cornelius' servants say the angels had him send for Peter? [Acts 10:22; 11:13-14]

What information in the text shows us how important Cornelius himself understood this message to be? [Acts 10:24-27, 33; see also 10:7-9]

In your own words, what did Peter teach Cornelius, who was waiting for "a message" that would save him and all of his household? [Acts 10:34-43]

Mark 16:15; Luke 24:44-48; Matthew 28:18-20

According to Mark's gospel, what did Jesus send the apostles to preach? [Mark 16:15]

According to Luke's gospel, what did Jesus say the preaching of the apostles should specifically include? [Luke 24:44-48; cp also Mark 1:15; 6:12; etc]

According to Matthew's gospel, what two things did the apostles' work of "making disciples" specifically entail? [Matthew 28:19-20]

Based on the texts we have analyzed today, as we consider sharing the gospel with those around us, what are the things that we must be careful to include in our instruction?

May God help us to SHARE THE MESSAGE OF THE GOSPEL, to the glory of Lord Jesus!!