



Adult Life Groups & Care Groups

Shively Baptist Church | Louisville, KY

Life Group Leaders Handout For Sunday June 1st, 2014

Planned Schedule:

- 0900-0910 –Meet & Greet in Life Groups
- 0910-0915 – Focus (TBD)
- 0915-0930 – Teaching Time (Life Group Leaders)
- 0930-1015 – Care Group Time (Care Group Leaders)



God's Church on the Move "Give Them Jesus" Acts 3:1-26

Background: The third point of Pastor Bill's message this week is an encouragement that "To give Jesus ... is to share the whole Gospel."

One of the difficulties in sharing the whole Gospel is that many Christians, who themselves claim to have accepted the Gospel, have difficulty in articulating the Gospel. In addition, there may well be elements of their gospel which are add-ons to The Gospel, making it no gospel at all.

One of the primary difficulties in articulating the Biblical Gospel is that there are no passages which present a definitive formulation. I have found Greg Gilbert's book "What is the Gospel" helpful in presenting a clear and concise statement of the Gospel.

Gilbert's formulation considers several New Testament passages which present aspects of the Gospel, and suggests that the best summary of the elements of the Gospel are found in Romans chapters 1-4:

Gospel Truths of Romans 1-4

1. It is God to whom we are accountable.

- a. 1:18 – wrath revealed from heaven
- b. Asserts that man is NOT autonomous
 - i. Not self created
 - ii. Not self-reliant
 - iii. Not self-accountable
 - iv. We are accountable to the creator God (1:21)
- c. Indicts humanity for not honoring & thanking God.



2. The reader's problem is that they rebelled against God

- a. 1:23 – They elevated creatures (and themselves) above God
- b. Paul indicts all humanity on this point
 - i. CH 1 – Focuses on Gentiles
 - ii. CH 2 – Focuses on Jews
 - iii. By mid CH 3 he has indicted everyone (3:9)
- c. Everyone will be held fully accountable (3:19)

Points 1 & 2 are NOT good news ~ But good news is contextualized by need, which Paul has established.

3. God's solution to humanity's sin is the death and resurrection of Jesus the Christ.

- a. 3:21 – “**But now ...**”
- b. Not based on law
- c. 3:24

4. How readers can be included in this salvation.

- a. 3:22 – Through faith ... for all who believe
- b. 4:5

Romans 3:21-24 ~ 21) **But now** the righteousness of God has been manifested **apart from the law**, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— 22) the righteousness of God **through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe**. For there is no distinction: 23) for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24) and are **justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,**

Romans 4:5 ~ And to the one who **does not work but believes in him** who justifies the ungodly, **his faith is counted as righteousness,**

Four Crucial Questions

1. Who made us? (To whom are we accountable?) – *We are accountable to our Creator God.*
2. What is our problem? – *We do not recognize Him and worship Him for Who He is, and have actually rebelled against His rightful rule.*
3. What is God's solution? – *God the Son came, lived a sinless life, died and resurrected as a means to restore our relationship with God.*
4. How can I be included? – *Through belief/saving faith in Jesus Christ*

The Basic Formulation: God -> Man -> Christ -> Response

