

*What is the
gospel?*

Setup:

(Have 4 students with Bibles come up and read the scriptures from below as you walk through)

The word gospel occurs 93 times in the New Testament and it literally means “good news”. The news being that God has designed a plan to save sinful humans from eternal separation from Him.

In order to fully understand how good this news really is, we must first understand the bad news.

We are all sinners. [Romans 3:23](#) What is sin again? *Choosing a way other than God’s way*

The penalty for sin is death. [Romans 6:23](#) What is a wage? *what you deserve, what you earn* We deserve to die and live separated from God forever.


There is literally no way we can earn our way back to God, so...He came to us! This is the good news—the Gospel.

Christ died for you. [Romans 5:8](#)

The Bible says that even though we deserve the death penalty for our sin, Jesus took the penalty. He died in our place. Three days later, Jesus rose from death, conquering sin.

You can be saved through faith in Christ. [Ephesians 2:8-9](#)

We can depend on Jesus to forgive us and give eternal life, rather than eternal death.
Have you received this gospel message for yourself? *Believing and committing your life to God*
Are you sharing this good news with others?




*What is the
gospel?*

Parent Que:

This week your students took a deeper look at what the gospel means. We discussed the reality that the gospel is the greatest news that could be given to anyone. The truth is there is really bad news for anyone who does not receive the message of the gospel. Yet, we so often carry this news, keeping it close, never sharing it with the world who needs to hear it. In fact, not only does the world need to hear it, we were told to share it with them. Who is it in your own world that you need to share the gospel with? Tell your student and ask them the same question. Hold each other accountable to be bold and share the powerful, lifegiving message of the gospel. It has the power to heal and transform for eternity those that receive. May you live as an example of testifying to its truth to your student.

Key Scriptures:

Hebrews 10:1,10 2 Corinthians 5:21 1 Peter 1:3-4 Mark 16:15-16



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Share a time that you received some bad news.
How did you hear about it? How did it make you feel?
What about a time when you received good news?
Has there ever been a time when you heard
bad news that turned into good news?

Let's review from the set-up time:

What's the bad news when it comes to the world and sin?

What's the good news?

Perfect sacrifice

Before Jesus came people still sinned. God had set a standard called the law for people to follow. Like us, they would fall short and need forgiveness. So, God established a system of sacrifice and offering that would atone or forgive the sin. These sacrifices always required that blood be shed.

Let's look at what happened right after God found Adam and Eve hiding in the garden.

Read [Genesis 3:21](#)

What took place so that Adam and Eve were covered?

Have you ever thought about this being the first animal to die?

This system of sacrifices had some challenges.

Read [Hebrews 10:1](#)

How often did these sacrifices have to take place?

Read [Hebrews 10:10](#)

What was different about the sacrifice of Jesus?

Read [2 Corinthians 5:21](#)

What did God make as an offering for our sin?

What do you think it means to be "made right through Christ"?

Conquering death

Jesus took the punishment of our sin through the perfect sacrifice of His blood, but that wasn't all.

Read [Romans 6:9-11](#)

What did Jesus break the power of?

What does that mean for us who believe?

Giving Life

Read [1 Peter 1:3-4](#)

Why do we live with hope of eternal life?

Share the Good News

Have you ever received good news that you couldn't wait to share?

What made you excited or anxious to share it?

Read [Mark 16:15-16](#)

Where are we to go and what are we to preach?

Why is this important?

The point



The gospel is that God made a way, through the perfect sacrifice of Jesus, for sinners to be saved and be with Him forever. We have a responsibility to share the Good News with the world.

Application

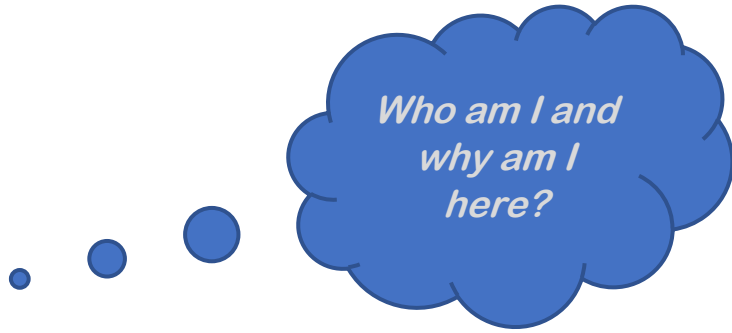
You are in the world every day, are you preaching the gospel? If so, how? If not, why?

What will you do this week to share the Good News? Share and hold each other accountable next week.

Catch up/ Journal/ Pray

Setup:

Open with some “Who am I Riddles”, awarding candy to winners.



Knowing who we are can get complicated when we look with eyes other than God’s to see ourselves. Maybe you are skilled at a sport and you see yourself as a gymnast or a football player a runner or just athletic in general. It could be that you are academically minded and a student on the honor roll, or a bookworm. There are many things that can give us labels that identify us. We could be the trouble maker, the quiet one, the loud one, and take on identity by our behavior or personality. There’s only one person that knows your true identity deeply. It is the God who perfectly crafted you for purpose. You were made who you are by His hand and for His plan.

Maybe you’ve heard it said that God doesn’t make mistakes. This Psalm speaks to that very truth.

Psalm 139

O Lord, you have examined my heart
and know everything about me.

²You know when I sit down or stand up.
You know my thoughts even when I’m far away.

...

¹³You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body
and knit me together in my mother’s womb.

¹⁴Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex!
Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it.

¹⁵You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion,
as I was woven together in the dark of the womb.

¹⁶You saw me before I was born.
Every day of my life was recorded in your book.

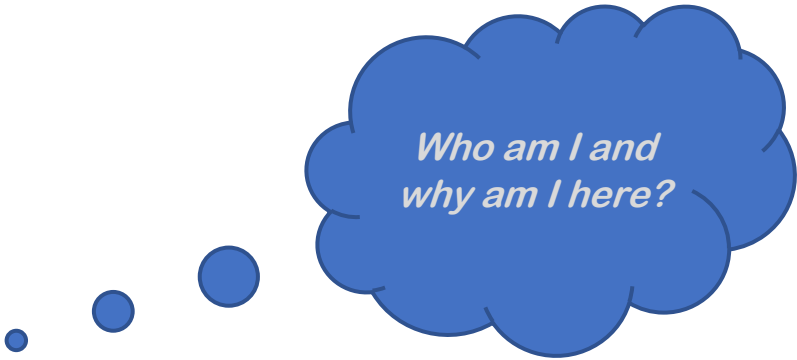
Every moment was laid out
before a single day had passed.

¹⁷How precious are your thoughts about me, O God.
They cannot be numbered!

¹⁸I can’t even count them;
they outnumber the grains of sand!

And when I wake up,
you are still with me!

Let me pray for you.



*Who am I and
why am I here?*

Parent Que:

Many things in the world fight to give us labels. Some labels are desirable and chased after. Other labels can be quite undesirable, and if given those labels we seek to peel them off. When it comes to identity your student will follow your lead in this. Much of what you say as a parent carries weight in your student's identity. If you stress importance, or value in their performance within academics or athletics, it is likely they will gain their identity from those areas. That can leave many students feeling defeated and as though they failed when they meet an academic or athletic challenge that surpasses their skill level. We have to be careful with our expectations of our students. We may not even realize that have given weight to a particular area with our student until they break under the pressure of performance. Be intentional to check in with your student in this area. Make sure they are confident that your pride in them and love for them hinges on the simple truth that they are yours! Let them hear your praise and affirmation in moments of the ordinary. This will help them to take hold of the constant approval of who God sees them as, His dearly loved children.

Key Scriptures:

[Romans 15:7](#)

[1 Peter 2:9](#)


[Eph 1:4 & 5](#)

[Ephesians 2:10](#)

[Psalm 139:13-18](#)

[Romans 5:6-11](#)

[Romans 8:37-39](#)



*Who am I and
why am I
here?*

Remember back to when you were younger, and people would ask you what you wanted to be when you grew up.
What was your answer to that question?
Has your answer changed?
How would you describe yourself in 3 words?
What 3 words do you think others would use to describe you?

How I identify myself determines how I approach life.

Two of the biggest questions we are faced with in life revolve around our identity: *who am I and why am I here?* Each of us believes things about ourselves that make up “who we are” and we navigate life trying to find a purpose to it. If we aren’t careful, the world around us will tell us who we are and point our lives in a certain direction. The truth is, God make each one of us unique for specific purposes. Saint Augustine once said, “Our hearts are restless until they can find rest in you”. Until we understand who we are in Christ and what he has created us for, we will never truly find rest and security in who we are and what we do. Let’s look at two parts of our identity and two parts of our purpose as Children of God...

Identity - Chosen

Read Eph 1: 4 & 5

- When and why did God decide to adopt us?
- What did that make us in His eyes?
- How did He feel about adopting us?
- Do you think you live everyday as a chosen child of God?
- When is it easy to live in that reality? When is it hard?

Read 1 Peter 2:9

- Who does this verse say we are and what can we do because of that?
- How are you showing the goodness of God to others in your everyday life?

Identity - Loved

Read Romans 5:6-11

- What was our condition when Christ came?
- Why did God send Christ?
- What did that gift of love do for us?

Read [Romans 8:37-39](#)

- Because of the love of Christ, what is ours?
- Can anything separate us from the victorious love of God?

Purpose - Glorify God

Read [Isaiah 43:7](#)

- Who created us and why?
- What do you think it looks like to bring God glory?

Discuss

To glorify God means to acknowledge His greatness and give Him honor by praising and worshiping Him, primarily because He, and He alone, deserves to be praised, honored and worshipped. – gotquestions.org

Read [Matthew 5:14-16](#)

- Share a time from this last week when you were able to shine the light of Jesus, reflecting God to someone else.

Purpose – Eternal Relationship

Read [Psalm 16:11](#)

What does David say God has shown him?

What does God's presence bring him?

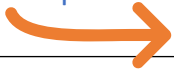
Do you feel like you enjoy God? If so, share how.

Read [2 Corinthians 4:15-18](#)

Sometimes we forget that this time we spend on earth is short compared to eternity. Verse 15 reminds us that as we wait for eternity, God's glory is being shown to more and more people who will surrender their life to Him.

- How long will our present troubles last?
- Does it feel like they will last longer? If so, why?
- What do these verses tell us we should think about and why?
- Is it hard for you to think about eternity when things are hard in your life? If so, why do you think that's the case?

The point



Listening to who God says I am and embracing His identity in me gives me the freedom to live out all He has planned for my life.

Application

Thinking through these 3 words that God uses to define you: Chosen, Enough and Loved, which of these is hardest to identify with when it comes to relationship with God?

How can we glorify God and live into his plan for us this week?

Catch up/ Journal/ Pray