



CONNECTION

March, 2017

“Christians Need the Gospel, Too”

¹⁸ For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

¹⁹ For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. ²² For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. (1 Cor 1:18–25 ESV)

We know that unbelievers need the gospel. For those looking for peace and forgiveness, the cross and resurrection of Jesus is very good news.

We know the gospel is important to us. We have come to trust in Jesus for our salvation. We believe that we have become children of God through faith in the Son. “How precious did that grace appear the hour we first believed.”

But what about this hour? We needed the gospel to be saved. Do we still need it? Paul seems to think so. We are still be saved by word of the cross which is the power of God. That’s why he told the Corinthians: “For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.” (1 Cor 2:2 ESV). It is why he was eager to preach the gospel to the Christians in Rome. (Romans 1:15) Preaching the gospel to Christians!

We need to keep hearing and believing the good news of Jesus. It keeps us humble. It reminds us that we are sinners who need to repent every day. It keeps us from despair, knowing that we are washed clean by the blood of Christ.

In an article in *Tabletalk Magazine*, Joe Thorn writes: “Fundamentally, the gospel is forgotten when it no longer functions as our ongoing hope and confidence before God, or when it becomes unessential for the practical, daily living of the Christian life. The gospel we often forget must be reclaimed and retained for the safety of our souls, and this is done through preaching the gospel to ourselves.” (Jan 1, 2015).

We still need the gospel. It is still good news. Preach it to yourself today.

Yours, in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dave".

Pastor Dave

Men's Bible Study

The Men's First Saturday Bible Study will meet on March 4 at 9:00 am in the church Lounge. We are just starting a look at the book of Galatians. This would be a great time to join in with us for Bible reading, spiritual discussion, and prayer. Please come!

Preaching the Gospel to Ourselves:

Discussions on the Power of God

Wednesdays, March 8-29

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| March 8 | Is the gospel too good to be true? |
| March 15 | What is the gospel? |
| March 22 | Why do Christians need the gospel? |
| March 29 | What difference does the gospel make in our lives and in our church? |

Each Wednesday night, beginning March 8, will include a light soup supper at 6:30 pm. A free-will offering will be collected.

From 7-8:15 pm, we will read scripture together, discuss the importance of the gospel, and to pray, and to worship God.

Lent begins:

Ash Wednesday Worship Service

March 1, 2017

7:00 pm

Mark 1:1-15

"Repent and Believe the Gospel"

Upcoming Sermons

March 5

Celebration of the Lord's Supper
Romans 8:1-11

"Believing the Gospel Again"

¹ Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, ² and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you... (1 Cor 15:1-2 ESV)

March 12

Galatians 1:3-9

"Getting the Gospel Right"

⁶ I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—⁷ not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. (Gal 1:6-7 ESV)

March 19

Ephesians 3:14-21

"Getting the Gospel In"

¹⁶ ...that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸ may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹ and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. (Eph 3:16-19 ESV)

March 26

Galatians 5:13-25

"Living the Gospel Out"

¹⁶ But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. (Gal 5:16-18 ESV)