

PRESENTING THE GOSPEL

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY (MAY-JUNE 2022)

① TWO TEACHINGS

Identify two main teachings of the Bible and describe each.

1.

2.

Search and study. Come up with at least three Bible history accounts that share both law and gospel which you can use to present the gospel to someone.

Boil down the gospel message. (John 20:31, Luke 24:45-48). Share some of the earliest memories you have of the law and gospel being shared to you. List some things that made it stand out in your memory.

Practice: Role play. Have one person in your group be oblivious to the Bible's teachings but temporarily interested in hearing about the gospel. Have another person take just a short 1–2-minute opportunity to give a presentation of the law and gospel. Share it as if you will never get to speak to that person again.



Evaluate your role playing. What important truths might have been missed in the conversation? What things God's plan of salvation might have been misunderstood? What is most likely to stick with that other person?

Read the following to identify what teaching is at the forefront. Consider how each account might be used to present the gospel:

Luke 12:13-21

Luke 13:1-9

Luke 15:1-7

Luke 18:9-14

Luke 18:15-17

Luke 18:18-23

Agree or Disagree: "You have to have an invitation or transition in the conversation in order to begin talking with someone about the gospel with someone." Cite some examples from Scripture to make your case.

For more on this topic, see learning activity 2 on next page.



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© TWO SEASONS

*Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage
—with great patience and careful instruction. -2 Timothy 2:4*

Identify opportune times to share the gospel. Finish the sentence and discuss the cliché advice, “There are two things you should never talk about at the dinner table...” List some reasons why religion will often be absent from dinner conversation.

Discuss some situations when it seems like it is an inopportune time to share the gospel. Give some reasons why you might feel it feels extra awkward to share the gospel in those situations.

Scripture gives us at least two reasons why it will always feel awkward to present the gospel. Find them in these verses: (1 Corinthians 1:22-23; 1 Peter 2:7-8)

Read Matthew 13:53-58. Explain one common place where it is sometimes the hardest to share the gospel. Use your experiences to share some reasons why that is the case.

Seasons don't matter! (Read 2 Corinthians 6:1-2, John 9:4)



Practice: Role-play an in-season opportunity: One person is to extend a phone call to you as a friend or family member or coworker. They just found out that they have terminal cancer and are sharing the news with you. Respond as you transition to presenting the gospel to them.

Do you know someone facing a similar situation who might be ready to listen to the gospel? Pray for words of wisdom to share with them *today*.

Practice: Role-play for out-of-season readiness. Have one person in your group take the role as a family member who you haven't seen in a long time. That person is to make every effort to redirect the conversation away from talking about the spiritual things and the gospel. They are busy talking about something like their new job, their diet, their possessions, their health concerns. Another person is to look for every opportunity to insert law or gospel as appropriate. After a few minutes switch roles.

Do you know someone who will never allow you to share the gospel? Pray for wisdom and love to direct their eyes to Christ next time you see them.

Agree or Disagree: "God will present the opportunities for me to share the gospel when needed."

List at least three different obstacles and opportunity's what will come when sharing the gospel for the first time with a little child and with an adult.

CHILD		ADULT	
<i>Obstacles</i>	<i>Opportunities</i>	<i>Obstacles</i>	<i>Opportunities</i>



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① QUARRELING VS. GENTLE INSTRUCTION

Read and study 2 Timothy 2. Explain what the soldier, athlete, and farmer teach us about presenting the gospel. How are all their attitudes towards their mission cultivated in your life as you present the gospel?

How does Paul simply summarize the gospel (2:8)? What is the goal of presenting the gospel (2:10)?

Review 2:11-13 This ancient creed or hymn can be applied to presenting the gospel. Identify some warnings and comfort from it.

Keep the most important thing first! Re-read 2:14-17. It can be easy to lose track of a spiritual discussion. Consider the attempts of the Samaritan woman to derail the topic which Jesus wanted to share (John 4). But Jesus kept the most important topics first. Practice: role-play by having one person in your group act obsessed with arguing about a doctrinal side-point like the use of Christian freedom in worship. Gently and kindly lead the conversation back to a clear focus on sin and grace, law and gospel.

Share a time you had to keep presenting the gospel over an extended period of time. Can you identify a time when your efforts to share gospel only ran in circles as fruitless quarreling? Share two things which Paul mentions can help avoid foolish quarrelling as you present the gospel.

Quarrels will happen. Arguments will occur in a sinful world. The important thing to ask is, “why do they start and how are they resolved?” Share Paul’s biblical and godly approach for dealing with quarrels.



It is important to note that avoiding quarrels doesn't mean avoiding or compromising the truth. It means gently instructing those who err. (See 2:24) Distinguish between "quarrelling about words" and "godless chatter." Explain why both are destructive to dwell on. (2:16-19) What does godless chatter eventually cause to happen?

Read 2:20-21. Your actions and attitude matter! What does this parable about tools in the home tell us about our lives as we present the gospel? Read 2:22. List some wicked things a person must flee and the good things they must pursue in order to be a ready tool for serving God. Apply this to your life.

2:24 List and discuss four qualifications for those who publicly teach the gospel as a called worker. How do they also generally apply to every believer?

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)

2:26 Describe the real battle going on as you present the gospel. Refer to verse 25 to find out how you lead the lost to win the battle.

Agree or Disagree: "We should never discuss theology with someone if it is just going to lead to an ongoing debate or argument."

Review: What are the two main teachings to use when presenting the gospel?

Review: What are the two seasons for sharing the gospel? Why should we always be ready?

Review: What are some ways to avoid quarreling and offer gentle instruction?

