

The background features several religious symbols enclosed in circles of varying line styles (solid and dashed). On the left, a cross with radiating lines is in a dashed circle, and a manger is in a solid circle below it. On the right, a crown is in a dashed circle, a flame is in a solid circle, and a small star is in a dashed circle. The text is centered over these elements.

THE *Beautiful* GOSPEL

HARVEST BIBLE CHAPEL

A CHRISTMAS DEVOTIONAL

Harvest Christmas Season Devotional

How to utilize this resource

This Christmas devotional is broken up into four weeks with one devotional per week. Each devotion is aimed to help you unpack the truth of Scripture about a specific component of the beautiful Gospel.

This year the primary teaching for this devotional will be made available via special, weekly *Firm Faith* podcast episodes. These will be released on Sundays starting November 30th, with the intent that the devotional will help prepare your heart for the sermon on that topic the following Sunday.

On each page in this devotional, you will find a unique QR code that you can scan with your phone's camera app to take you to that week's episode of the podcast. These are also linked on our website on the 2025 Christmas page.

You will also find the Scripture references and several discussion questions listed for each devotion in this study packet. Please utilize these to help you go deeper into God's Word.

We also have a Christmas Worship Songs playlist for your enjoyment. Please scan the QR code to the right to access it on Spotify.



Week 1

How Does God's Holiness Fit into the Beautiful Gospel?

Scripture

Isaiah 6:1-7 (ESV)

In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. 2 Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. 3 And one called to another and said:

*"Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory!"*

4 And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. 5 And I said: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

6 Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. 7 And he touched my mouth and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for."

Exodus 3:1-6 (ESV)

Now Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. 2 And the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. 3 And Moses said, "I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned." 4 When the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." 5 Then he said, "Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." 6 And he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Devo

Please scan the QR code to listen to the devo for this week.



Questions

1. When you hear the word holiness, what comes to mind? Why?
2. In Exodus 3, why does God tell Moses, “Do not come near... the place where you are standing is holy ground”? What does this teach about God’s holiness?
3. In Isaiah 6, why is the threefold cry “Holy, holy, holy” important? What does it communicate about God?
4. Isaiah responds, “Woe is me! I am ruined.” What is Isaiah recognizing about himself in the light of God’s holiness?
5. How does God’s holiness reveal our need for the gospel? Why can’t the gospel be understood rightly without seeing God’s holiness first?
6. How does understanding God’s holiness help you appreciate what Jesus accomplished more deeply?
7. How might a deeper understanding of God’s holiness change the way you worship, pray, or live this week?

Pray

Thank God for His holiness and ask him to help you to better understand the implications of his holiness for your own life and worship.

Week 2

How Does Man's Sinfulness Fit into the Beautiful Gospel?

Scripture

Genesis 3:1-24 (ESV)

Isaiah 64:5-7 (ESV)

- 5 You meet him who joyfully works righteousness,
those who remember you in your ways.
Behold, you were angry, and we sinned;
in our sins we have been a long time, and shall we be saved?
- 6 We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
- 7 There is no one who calls upon your name,
who rouses himself to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have made us melt in the hand of our iniquities.

Romans 1:18-23 (ESV)

18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. 19 For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. 20 For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. 21 For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. 22 Claiming to be wise, they became fools, 23 and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

Romans 3:23 (ESV)

23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

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Questions

1. When you hear the word sin, what comes to mind? Why?
2. What stands out to you in the Genesis 3 story of the Fall?
3. How does the serpent's strategy (questioning God's word and goodness) mirror the way temptation works today?
4. What does Genesis 3 teach us about how sin disrupts relationships – with God and with others?
5. How does Isaiah 64:5-7 challenge the idea that we can “fix ourselves” spiritually?
6. How does understanding sin as misplaced worship change the way we view our struggles?
7. Why is Romans 3:23 foundational to understanding the gospel? How should it shape the way we relate to one another?

Pray

Give thanks for God's gospel grace in your life and ask him to help you to take sin seriously by confessing and turning from it.

Week 3

How does God's Solution of Jesus Christ fit into the Gospel?

Scripture

Ephesians 2:1-22 (ESV)

Romans 3:21-26 (ESV)

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, 25 whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. 26 It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Romans 5:6-11 (ESV)

6 For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. 7 For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— 8 but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. 10 For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. 11 More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Romans 8:3-4 (ESV)

3 For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, 4 in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

Devo

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Questions

1. Why do you think Paul spends so much time explaining our problem before explaining God's solution?
2. Why is it important to understand the seriousness of our condition before appreciating God's solution?
3. What do these passages tell us about God's character and initiative in the gospel?
4. How does seeing salvation as God's action (not ours) affect the way we think about the gospel?
5. What are some examples of "good works" that flow out of being in Christ rather than trying to earn God's favor?
6. Which aspect of Jesus' work (new life, grace, reconciliation, access to the Father, new humanity) is most profound to you personally?
7. What is one way you want to walk more fully in your identity as God's workmanship this week?

Pray

Thank God for his plan of salvation through his son, Jesus Christ. Give thanks for specific things you learned from this study about Jesus.

Week 4

How does Man's Necessary Response Fit into the Gospel?

Scripture

Romans 10:9-17 (ESV)

9 because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. 11 For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." 12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. 13 For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

14 How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? 15 And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" 16 But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?" 17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

Acts 3:18-19 (ESV)

18 But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. 19 Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out,

John 1:9-13 (ESV)

9 The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. 10 He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. 11 He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. 12 But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, 13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

Romans 4:5 (ESV)

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

Devo

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Questions

1. What does it mean practically to confess Jesus as Lord? How is this different from simply saying Christian words?
2. What does it mean to “believe in your heart” that God raised Jesus from the dead? How is heart-belief deeper than intellectual agreement?
3. Paul shows that salvation involves an inward reality (belief) and an outward expression (confession). Why do you think both matter?
4. Have you personally responded to the gospel with heart-belief and confession? If yes, what did that look like? If not (or unsure), what questions do you have?
5. Are you living out the confession that Jesus is Lord in daily decisions? What does this look like in your life?
6. How might God be calling you to share the gospel so others can hear and respond? Who in your life has God placed near you to hear the gospel—from you?
7. What fears or obstacles keep you from sharing Christ more freely?

Pray

Give thanks for God’s grand redemption plan. Rejoice in your own salvation. Pray for those in your life who do not yet know Christ.



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