

A HERITAGE OF TRUTH

THEME NINE: God's Gift–Salvation

Truth #6

QUESTION

What is the Gospel?

ANSWER

- 4-year-olds – 1st grade: The Gospel is the good news that Jesus lived, died, and lives again for me.
- 2nd-5th grades: The Gospel is the good news that Jesus Christ lived a sinless life, died a substitutionary death, and lives again to save those who draw near to God through Him.
- 6th grade and up: The Gospel is the good news that Jesus Christ lived a sinless life in our place, died a substitutionary death in our place, and lives again to save those who draw near to God through Him.

MEMORY VERSE

1 Corinthians 15:3b-4

That Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. ESV

SUGGESTED HYMN

“God in the Gospel of His Son”

FURTHER STUDY

Paul's Experience of the Gospel

In 1 Timothy 1:12-17 Paul shares his testimony of how God converted him from a Christian-hating persecutor of the church to a Christ-loving apostle for the church. He introduces his testimony by speaking of “the glorious gospel of the blessed God” (v. 11). Verses twelve through seventeen share Paul's experience with this glorious gospel.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- How does Paul describe his state before he was saved (1 Timothy 1:13, 15)? List and define the various terms he uses. Compare this passage with Philippians 3:4-6, another place where Paul describes his former life. Do these two testimonies contradict one another? How do the two passages help to define one another so that we are left with a fuller picture of Paul's pre-conversion state? Consider your own situation. How is your self-righteousness (like Paul's in Philippians 3:4-6) really a kind of blasphemy (like Paul's in 1 Timothy 1:13)? Challenge your family to recognize the deceitful, deadly nature of our self-righteousness.
- How does Paul describe the character and work of God in every verse of the 1 Timothy passage? List and define the various terms he uses. Take time to rejoice in God's gracious work to turn you from your sin, overwhelm you with His mercy, and transform you into His child.

A Heritage of Truth is a set of 120 studies designed to assist our entire congregation—and our families in particular—to explore the ways and works of God so that they grow up into Christ, worship God and enjoy Him forever. Questions and answers are provided by Kids4Truth (www.kids4truth.org).