

We call the message of Jesus 'the gospel'.

It is a simple invitation to encounter  
God's transforming love.

*"The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a King who gave a wedding feast for his Son, and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast..." Matthew 22:2-3*

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Often the message of Jesus gets lost in the midst of religious controversy.  
But **the gospel is meant to be simple.**

[1 Corinthians 1:17] *Christ did not send me to baptise but to \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_, not with \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, lest the cross of Christ be \_\_\_\_\_ of its power.*

One easy way to remember the gospel is with these four simple pictures:



**#1 The Original Reality: God's Love**

What is God like?

[1 John 4:16] *God is \_\_\_\_\_ .*

How did God make everything in the beginning?

[Genesis 1:1] *In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth...*

[Genesis 1:4,10,12,18,21,25,31] *And he saw that it was \_\_\_\_\_ .*

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==> What did Jesus say?

[Matthew 5:44-45] *I say to you, \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_ and pray for those who persecute you so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_, and sends rain on the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_.*



## #2 The Problem: Sin

### Why don't we experience God's love?

[Isaiah 59:2] ...but your \_\_\_\_\_ have made a separation between you and your God,  
and your \_\_\_\_\_ have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear.

### Why can't God just ignore our sins?

[Habakkuk 1:13] Your eyes are \_\_\_\_\_ to look upon evil,  
you \_\_\_\_\_ tolerate wrongdoing.

[Definition] Sin is anything incompatible with love.

[Illustration] Since God is love, God and sin are incompatible -- like oil and water.

### 'But I haven't committed any big sins...'

[James 2:10] Whoever keeps the \_\_\_\_\_ law yet stumbles at just \_\_\_\_\_  
is \_\_\_\_\_ of breaking \_\_\_\_\_ of it.

[Ecclesiastes 10:1] As dead flies give perfume a bad smell,  
so a \_\_\_\_\_ folly outweighs wisdom and honour.

[Romans 3:23] For \_\_\_\_\_ have \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.

### 'Isn't it judgemental to talk about sin?'

[Romans 8:1] In Christ, there is no condemnation.

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==> What did Jesus say?

[Mark 10:18] \_\_\_\_\_ is good, but God alone.

[Matthew 5:21,22,27,28,48] You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall  
not murder... but I say to you that \_\_\_\_\_ who is \_\_\_\_\_ with his  
brother will be liable to judgement...

You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery' but I  
say to you that everyone who \_\_\_\_\_ at a woman with \_\_\_\_\_ has  
already committed adultery with her in his heart...

You therefore must be \_\_\_\_\_ as your heavenly Father is  
\_\_\_\_\_.

[John 8:7] Let he who has no sin cast the first stone.



### #3 The Solution: What Jesus Has Done

What does the gospel tell us that Jesus did?

[1 Corinthians 15:3-4] ...that Christ \_\_\_\_\_ for our \_\_\_\_\_ in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was \_\_\_\_\_, that he was \_\_\_\_\_ on the third day...

Where was this prophesied 'in the Scriptures'?

[Isaiah 53:5] *He was \_\_\_\_\_ for our \_\_\_\_\_ ....  
and with his \_\_\_\_\_ we are healed.*

[Hosea 6:1a,2] *Come, let us [ie. humanity] return to the LORD; for he has torn that he may heal us; he has struck us down, and he will bind us up. After \_\_\_ days he will revive us; on the \_\_\_ he will raise us up.*

How do we know that this really happened?

[Acts 1:3] *Jesus presented himself alive to his disciples after his suffering by \_\_\_\_\_ proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking to them about the kingdom of God.*

In particular, we can see the amazing transformation in Jesus' disciples –  
and we can see that same transformation in people today!

[John 18:15-18; Acts 4:13-19] \_\_\_\_\_ *denied Jesus.*

[John 20:25; 20:28] \_\_\_\_\_ *doubted Jesus.*

[Acts 9:1-22] \_\_\_\_\_ *destroyed the church of Jesus.*

All three ended up going as missionaries to other countries and chose to die rather than renounce faith in Jesus.

Who did Jesus die for?

[1 Timothy 2:4] *God desires \_\_\_\_\_ people to be \_\_\_\_\_ and to come to a knowledge of the truth. For there is \_\_\_\_\_ God, and \_\_\_\_\_ mediator between God and men, the man \_\_\_\_\_ who gave himself as a ransom for \_\_\_\_\_ .*

[1 Timothy 1:15] *Christ Jesus came into the world to save \_\_\_\_\_ -- of whom I am the \_\_\_\_\_!*

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==> What did Jesus say?

[Mark 8:31] *And Jesus began to teach them that the Son of Man [ie. Jesus] must \_\_\_\_\_ many things and be rejected... and be killed, and after \_\_\_\_\_ days rise again. And he said this plainly.*

[Mark 10:45] *For even the Son of Man came not to be \_\_\_\_\_ but to \_\_\_\_\_, and to \_\_\_\_\_ as a ransom for many.*



#### #4 Your Decision: Trust In Jesus

What must a person do to be saved?

[Acts 16:31] \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_, and you will be saved.

[Romans 10:9] If you \_\_\_\_\_ with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, and \_\_\_\_\_ in your heart that God \_\_\_\_\_ him from the \_\_\_\_\_, you will be \_\_\_\_\_.

==> What did Jesus say?

[Mark 1:15] The time is fulfilled and the kingdom of God is at hand, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_.

[John 3:16] For God so loved the world, that He gave his Only-Begotten Son, that whoever \_\_\_\_\_ in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

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#### A very simple salvation prayer: Sorry/Thankyou/Please

[**Sorry:** 1 John 1:8-9]

Father God,  
I'm sorry for the wrong things that I've done.  
Please forgive me.

[**Thankyou:** Romans 5:8]

Thankyou for loving me just as I am.  
Thankyou for dying for my sin and rising again.  
I trust in Jesus as my Saviour.  
I declare that Jesus is my Lord.

[**Please:** Luke 11:13; Acts 1:8]

Please fill me with your Holy Spirit.  
Please fill me with your love and power.  
Please use me to bring your love into the world.

AMEN

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If you have sincerely prayed this prayer, then – according to Romans 10:9 – you are saved! Lk.15:7 tells us that the angels are now rejoicing! So we should celebrate with them!

After praying a prayer like this, you might feel the Holy Spirit in various different ways:

- Feeling God's **Love** poured into their heart (Romans 5:5)
- Inexpressible **Joy** (Acts 8:8)
- Feeling **Refreshed** (Acts 3:20)

Now you're a Christian, multiply the love you've received by sharing this with your friends:

1. \_\_\_\_\_; 2. \_\_\_\_\_; 3. \_\_\_\_\_; 4. \_\_\_\_\_; 5. \_\_\_\_\_; 6. \_\_\_\_\_; 7. \_\_\_\_\_