

# EXPLAINING THE GOSPEL

How to clearly explain the message of salvation

**AG**

Series 1 Session 2

**Get into pairs and  
take 2 minutes each to  
explain the gospel to each  
other.**



## PREACHING AND EVANGELISM

The original Greek word for preaching, or evangelism, is “euangelizo.” It is a compound word composed of two Greek words: “eu”, meaning “good”, and “angelia”, meaning message. Together the word means the good message. In verb form it means proclaiming the good message - or evangelizing!

Paul explains the centrality of the Gospel in Romans:

### **Romans 1 v. 16-17:**

*I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: “The righteous will live by faith.”*

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**“In order for our friends to understand Jesus’ message,  
we need to be able to clearly present the Gospel”**

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**What points would  
you choose to  
include in a  
Gospel  
presentation?**



One of the most widely used Gospel outlines in use today is the “Knowing God Personally” booklet (KGP). The basic structure of the outline is very simple and explains the essence of the Gospel:

1. God’s character and purpose for us
2. Our condition
3. God’s solution
4. Our response

The essence of the gospel is that Jesus is the Christ, God made man. Through his death and resurrection he offers forgiveness of sin and a radically new life lived in relationship with Him. This is available to all who turn from sin and put their confidence in Him. The meaning and implications of these truths are expanded and clarified throughout the rest of the Bible. The power of the gospel is that it leads us to Jesus, the one who makes everything else possible.

If we want to be effective in communicating the gospel to others it must first be clear in our own minds and lives. It helps to memorize a simple outline of the gospel. By learning the KGP booklet word for word you will always be prepared, even when you don't have a KGP or any other Gospel

Once we're clear and confident in the message of the gospel we have to think through its implications in the context of our lives. If the gospel doesn't transform our life, then we haven't got it. We need to ask ourselves "What does each point mean for me in my daily life?" Once we've worked through this, it will help us to be relevant and personal in the way we communicate.

**Now break into pairs and discuss how you can relate the gospel to the last 3 days of your life, using the four points of the KGP**



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***"The Gospel message is simple. You don't have to be a super-Christian to share it with your friends!"***

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It's impossible to explain the gospel to someone who doesn't want to listen. Jesus addressed those "who had ears to hear". We also want to avoid turning our presentation into a monologue so we need to engage and interact with the other person. We can do this by asking questions and getting feedback as we go through the booklet. The first few times of reading through it with someone can seem false and awkward, but it becomes easier and more natural with practice.

### **TIPS FOR USING THE BOOKLET**

- Be sensitive to the person. Maybe ask, 'Is this making sense?'
- Read the book aloud and unhurriedly. Try not to be mechanical and think about what you're saying. Recap the four headline points after you get to the end of point four.
- Hold the book where you can both see it and maybe point to words or phrases.
- Be careful not to use Christian jargon and make sure they understand what you are saying.
- Briefly answer questions that are directly relevant, but otherwise note them down and ask if you can come back to them at the end of the booklet.
- Never force someone to listen, so watch their body language.

**Get back into pairs and practice going through the KGP with each other.**

