

Sharing the Gospel (the good news!)

What is the gospel...and how to share it? The Gospel (good news) comes to us through Jesus of Nazareth, a Rabbi or teacher. But he was more than just a human teacher. He was God. So what is the Gospel and how do we practise sharing the Gospel with others outside the walls of our church building? How do we move from simple to deeper faith based conversations?

'We want to tell our friends about Jesus. We're told that we need to tell our friends about Jesus. But we don't know how to do it. When it comes to evangelism, we are scared and helpless.' Sam Chan¹

It is the Devil's own work to separate the language of salvation from the setting of salvation. To separate words from personal relationships, to make salvation a 'cause' or a 'project' that can be conducted as efficiently and impersonally as possible. But the Gospel won't permit it.' - Eugene Peterson

1. TEACHING – SHARING THE GOSPEL:

What is the Gospel? - Romans 1:1-4

Doing what Jesus did - Matthew 4:23; Luke 19:1-10; John 1:43-46; Acts 1:8

Follow Paul's example as he followed Christ - 2 Cor 5:17-21; Colossians 4:2-6; 1 Thess 1:4-10; 2:1-8

And Peter: 1 Peter 2:11-12; 3:13-16

Visit <https://practicingtheway.org/practices/preaching-the-gospel> to listen to the following teachings to help you understand what the gospel is and why and how to share it.



1

What is the Gospel?

Why is our generation so emotionally triggered by the idea of "evangelism" and what is the Gospel?

2

The Four American Gospels

What are the American Gospels, and how are they a misunderstanding from the Gospel of Jesus?

3

Practice Hospitality

Jesus "came eating and drinking." If he had a "method of evangelism," what would it look like?

4

Recognizing and Joining In

What might it look like to join God in what He is doing, rather than trying to bring him where He is needed?

5

Methods & Context

When our methods do not meet the current cultural context, how do we effectively preach the Gospel?

6

Doing The Stuff

When Jesus says that we will accomplish even greater works than Him, what does that look like in our every day lives?

7

Live a Way That Begs the Question

Most of "evangelism" in the early church was simply people living a radically different and deeply good life. Do we?

8

Preaching a Disruptive Gospel

Early Christians did not try to be popular with the culture of their time but also lived respectful lives.

¹ We highly recommend Sam Chan's book for Sharing the Gospel in the Aussie Context – *How to talk about Jesus (without being that guy)*

2. PRACTICE:

Some useful tips from Sam Chan in How to Talk About Jesus (Without Being That Guy) :

- -Evangelism is God's work
- -Know what the Gospel is
- -There is power in community
- -Go to their things and they will come to yours
- -Be creative with Hospitality
- -Be a loving friend
- -Listen
- -Share your story – tell the difference Jesus has made in your life

Visit <https://practicingtheway.org/practices/preaching-the-gospel> and click on each of these circles for more ideas and resources how to practice sharing the gospel



1

Defining The Gospel

In Greek, the word is euangelion, literally translated as good news. It is a declaration about Jesus.

2

Life Shared: Join His Heart

Discussing feelings and thoughts around the idea of sharing your faith in this present culture and context.

3

Life Shared: You're Invited

Partnering with God to bring the Good News to our neighborhoods and cities, through the Spirit's power.

4

Life Shared: Take A Step

Defining, "Who is my neighbor?" and taking practical next steps to sharing the gospel with our neighbors.

5

Hospitality

For Jesus, sharing the gospel was sharing a meal. Practicing the way of Jesus is shared life around a table, inviting others in.

6

Invitation

One way to preach the gospel is through inviting others to Alpha, a conversation about spirituality without judgement.

3. TAKE STEPS TO GROW IN COMMUNITY:

- To grow in this practice, what is **one idea you want to experiment with this coming week / month?** How will you do that?
- Is there someone that you could connect with for mutual encouragement, learning and accountability to **deepen in this practice?**² It might be your spouse, sibling, close friend, someone in your life group or someone else at this workshop

² This is a practical way we can fulfill our vision together at TCBC "Transforming lives through Christ-centred community"

"Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching" (Hebrews 10:24-25).