

# IMPACT

**I** **M**ust **P**ersonally **A**cknowledge **C**hrist **T**oday  
Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own under-  
standing; *in all your ways acknowledge Him* and He shall direct your path.  
Proverbs 3:5-6

**Passage:** I Peter 3:15-16 “But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and *always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear*; having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed.”

**Quote:** “When we preach Christ crucified, we have no reason to stammer, or stutter, or hesitate, or apologize; there is nothing in the gospel of which we have any cause to be ashamed.” (C.H. Spurgeon)

Paul declared, “Whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.” He then asked, “How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”<sup>1</sup> There is no greater responsibility for any Christian than to share the gospel with others. In order to do that, we must become familiar with it and pray that we can live it and declare it with meek dependency upon the Lord. One way to present the “Good News” is with the acrostic **G-O-S-P-E-L**.

**God** created a perfect world free from the corruption, disease, and violence evident today. He completed it with mankind made in His own image. “So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Then God saw *everything* that He had made, and indeed it was *very good*.” (Genesis 1:27, 31)

**Obedience** to one law was God’s condition for man to avoid the spiritual and physical death promised for disobedience. “And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, ‘Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.’” (Genesis 2:16-17)

**Sin** is rejection of God as evidenced in disobedience to His Word. “The fool has said in his heart, ‘There is no God.’ They are corrupt, They have done abominable

works, There is none who does good. The LORD looks down from heaven upon the children of men, To see if there are any who understand, who seek God. They have all turned aside, They have together become corrupt; There is none who does good, No, not one.” (Psalm 14:1-3) “Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness.” (I John 3:4)<sup>2</sup>

**Payment** for sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ Who fulfilled the Law perfectly. “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 6:23) “But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.” (Romans 5:8-10)

## The Gospel

**Entrusting** your soul to Christ’s care comes through faith in Him and repentance for sin. “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a *living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead*, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, *who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time*.” (I Peter 1:3-5)

**Life-everlasting** is God’s gift to all who believe in their hearts and confess with their mouth that He raised Christ from the dead, and evidence that belief by seeking to become like Christ. “That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.” (Romans 10:9-10)<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Romans 10:13-14   <sup>2</sup> See Rom.1:20-22, 28-32; James 4:17; Hebrews 3:7-13   <sup>3</sup> See I John 2:29; Philippians 2:12-13; James 2:17-18; Ephesians 2:8-10