



# What is the GOSPEL?

*By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly  
to the word I preached to you. Otherwise you have believed in vain  
- 1 Corinthians 15:2*

# What is the Gospel?

	<i>Page</i>
<b>study 1 - Romans 1:1-5</b> A gospel about Jesus Christ!	<b>4</b>
<b>study 2 - Romans 3:21-26</b> A gospel that involves sacrifice!	<b>10</b>
<b>study 3 - 1 Corinthians 15:1-6</b> A gospel according to the Scriptures!	<b>16</b>
<b>study 4 - Galatians 3:6-9</b> <i>A gospel rooted in the Old Testament!</i>	<b>22</b>
<b>study 5 - Titus 3:3-7</b> A gospel about the kindness and love of God!	<b>28</b>
<b>study 6 - Colossians 1:21-23</b> A gospel that requires perseverance!	<b>34</b>
<b>study 7 - Revelation 14:6-7</b> A gospel about lordship and judgement!	<b>38</b>

*But even if we or an angel from heaven  
should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you,  
let him be eternally condemned!  
- Galatians 1:8*

# Tips for using WTG?

**1. 2. 3.** Please note that the numbered questions can be answered *directly* from the passage, so make sure you look for the answers in the text of the Bible.



The '*Think it Through*' questions are to help you think further about what you have learned and to check how well you understand what you have discovered from answering the numbered questions. You will need to think hard about the answers because you may not find them *directly* in the text of the passage.



It is worth making sure you understand the meaning of certain key words that are used in the Bible passages, so look out for these and the footnotes that are given to help you.



Remember that '*a text without a context is a pretext*, so make sure you look at the verses surrounding the passage you are studying in order to help keep you on the right track. We often get things wrong because we ignore the context in which something has been written.

At the end of each study try to summarise what you have learned about the gospel using the summary page at the back of this booklet on page 45.

***This Edition - May 2008***

Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in one spirit, contending as one man for the faith of the gospel – Philippians 1:27

# Study 1: What is the Gospel?

## *Romans 1:1-5: A gospel about Jesus Christ!*

**<sup>1</sup>Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God—<sup>2</sup>the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures <sup>3</sup>regarding his Son, who as to his human nature was a descendant of David, <sup>4</sup>and who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord. <sup>5</sup>Through him and for his name's sake, we received grace and apostleship to call people from among all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith. <sup>6</sup>And you also are among those who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.**

<sup>7</sup>To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints:

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>8</sup>First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is being reported all over the world. <sup>9</sup>God, whom I serve with my whole heart in preaching the gospel of his Son, is my witness how constantly I remember you <sup>10</sup>in my prayers at all times; and I pray that now at last by God's will the way may be opened for me to come to you.

<sup>11</sup>I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong—<sup>12</sup>that is, that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith.

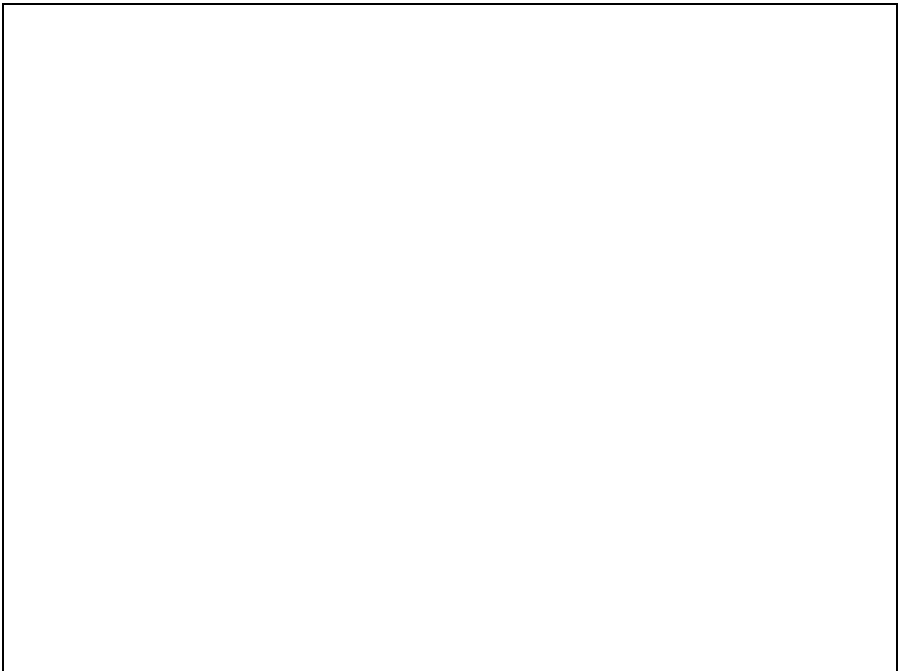
## **stop and think!**

Read Romans 1:1-5. What do these verses mean?  
Are there any words you don't understand?♦

## **put the verses into context**

Read Romans 1:1-12 so that you can see the section you  
are studying in its original context

**In the space below try to write down the  
main point of Romans 1:1-5!**



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♦ **Apostles**—Unique individuals who witnessed the life and resurrection of Jesus Christ, some of whom wrote books of the New Testament

**Prophets**—Men who spoke God's word particularly in the Old Testament

**Grace**—Undeserved mercy or favour, generosity, kindness

1. What is an apostle according to Paul?

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2. To whom does the gospel belong?

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3. What did God promised before hand through the prophets in the '**Holy Scriptures**' (*Old Testament*)?

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## THINK IT THROUGH

*Do you think apostles like Paul exist today? Try to explain your answer! See Acts 1:2, 18-26, Galatians 1:11-12, Ephesians 2:19-20 and 2 Peter 3:15-16!*

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*Explain in your own words what the gospel has to do with God?*

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*As a New Testament believer why is it important to be regularly reading and understanding the Old Testament?*

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*How much time do you spend reading the Old Testament?*

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4. Whom is the gospel concerned with?

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5. What two things does the gospel teach us about this person?

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## **THINK IT THROUGH**

*When explaining the gospel whom and what should always be included in that explanation?*

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*Why is it important for God's divine Son to also be human?*

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*Why is the resurrection so important?*

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6. How does Paul summarise the gospel in this passage?

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*The phrase ‘**Jesus Christ our Lord**’ is a good summary of the gospel message. Can you explain why? See Acts 17:30-31 and Philippians 2:5-11!*

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## **other parts of the Bible worth looking at:**

See also Psalm 2, Acts 2:36, Romans 16:25-27,  
2 Timothy 2:8

## **quotes to think about!**

Since the gospel is the power of God for Salvation, it is vital for ourselves and others to know exactly what it is. We may already understand it superficially, but there is a joy and maturity in understanding its depth. And some of us may be in for a shock when we discover that the gospel is not what we thought it was. – *Richard Coekin*

Wherever in the Bible we set out to show people the gospel...what we must take care to do is to preach God’s gospel. God’s gospel is about Jesus...the Jesus who died and rose again taking the punishment our sins deserved. – John Chapman



***Notes:-***

## Study 2: What is the Gospel?

### *Romans 3:21-26: A gospel that involves sacrifice!*

<sup>9</sup>What shall we conclude then? Are we any better? Not at all! We have already made the charge that Jews and Gentiles alike are all under sin. <sup>10</sup>As it is written:

- “There is no one righteous, not even one;  
<sup>11</sup> there is no one who understands,  
no one who seeks God.  
<sup>12</sup> All have turned away,  
they have together become worthless;  
there is no one who does good,  
not even one.”  
<sup>13</sup> “Their throats are open graves;  
their tongues practice deceit.”  
“The poison of vipers is on their lips.”  
<sup>14</sup> “Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness.”  
<sup>15</sup> “Their feet are swift to shed blood;  
<sup>16</sup> ruin and misery mark their ways,  
<sup>17</sup> and the way of peace they do not know.”  
<sup>18</sup> “There is no fear of God before their eyes.”

<sup>19</sup>Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. <sup>20</sup>Therefore no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin.

**<sup>21</sup>But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. <sup>22</sup>This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, <sup>23</sup>for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup>and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. <sup>25</sup>God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood. He did this to demonstrate his justice, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished—<sup>26</sup>he did it to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.**

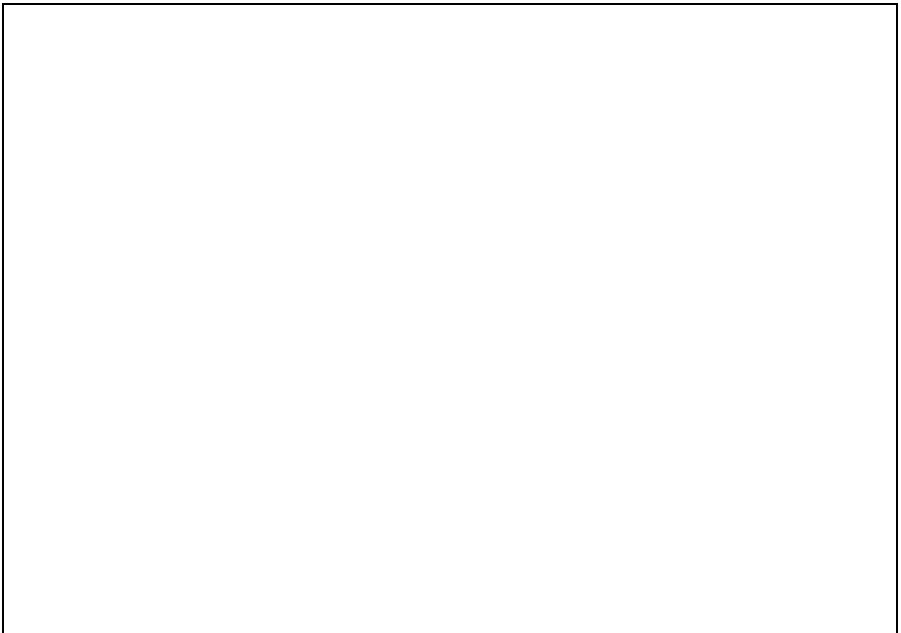
## **stop and think!**

Read Romans 3:21-26. What do these verses mean?  
Are there any words you don't understand?♦

## **put the verses into context**

Read Romans 3:9-26 so that you can see the section you  
are studying in its original context

**In the space below try to write down the  
main point of Romans 3:21-26!**



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♦ **Atonement**—Something or someone that turns aside wrath or anger and so taking away sin

**Righteousness**—to be in right standing with someone

**The Law and the Prophets** —Shorthand for the entire Old Testament

**Redemption**—To buy something back by paying a price for it

**Forbearance**—patient self-control, tolerance

1. What has been made known?

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2. To what does the Law and the Prophets testify?

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3. Where does this '**righteousness**' come from and who can receive it?

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4. What does the phrase '**apart from law**' mean?

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## THINK IT THROUGH

*What is the gospel about according to our passage? See vss.21-23!*

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*Why must righteousness (i.e. right standing before God) come to us apart from law? See vss.9-20!*

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*What attitude should we have towards this gospel? See Romans 1:16-18!*

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5. We are justified (*found not guilty*) by grace (*God's undeserved mercy*) through what?

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6. How did God present Jesus?

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## THINK IT THROUGH

*What is the connection between Jesus Christ and our redemption?*

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*What does trusting in the death of Jesus achieve for us as far as God is concerned? See vs.25 (Also see footnote on pg.11)!*

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*From Romans 3:25 try to explain why it is inadequate to say that Jesus died on the cross so my sins could be forgiven?*

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*To be in a right standing with God what two things does God need to deal with about himself?*

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7. What does the cross demonstrate about God?

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8. According to vss.25-26 how were people in the Old Testament saved?

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## **THINK IT THROUGH**

*Did God just ignore the sins committed by people before the death of Jesus on the cross? Explain your answer!*

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*How does the cross demonstrate the justice of God?*

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*Explain how the gospel addresses the problem of (i)human unrighteousness, (ii)inability to keep the law, (iii)God's wrath and (iv)his sense of justice?*

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## **other parts of the Bible worth looking at:**

See Exodus 12:1-28, Leviticus 17:10-16, Ephesians 1:7, 1  
John 2:1-2

## **quotes to think about!**

If we are not talking about God's Son, we are not talking about the gospel. We need to be aware that captivating talks full of witty illustrations and gripping anecdotes still need the gospel concerning God's Son if anyone is to be genuinely saved through them! - *Richard Coekin*

The righteousness of God with which [*Paul*] is concerned is a righteousness which takes men [*and women*] in their sins, alienated from the mind of God, subject to the wrath of God, and justifies them. – *Leon Morris*

What [*Paul*] means by justification is simply the forgiveness of sins, expressed in legal terminology. – *R. S. Franks*

Redemption means to set free from the slavery of sin by the payment of a ransom price. – *Peter Jeffrey*

## Study 3: What is the Gospel?

### ***1 Corinthians 15:1-5: A gospel according to the Scriptures!***

**<sup>1</sup>Now, brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. <sup>2</sup>By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.**

**<sup>3</sup>For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup>that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, <sup>5</sup>and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve. <sup>6</sup>After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. <sup>7</sup>Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, <sup>8</sup>and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.**

**<sup>9</sup>For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. <sup>10</sup>But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me. <sup>11</sup>Whether, then, it was I or they, this is what we preach, and this is what you believed. <sup>12</sup>But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? <sup>13</sup>If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. <sup>14</sup>And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith.**



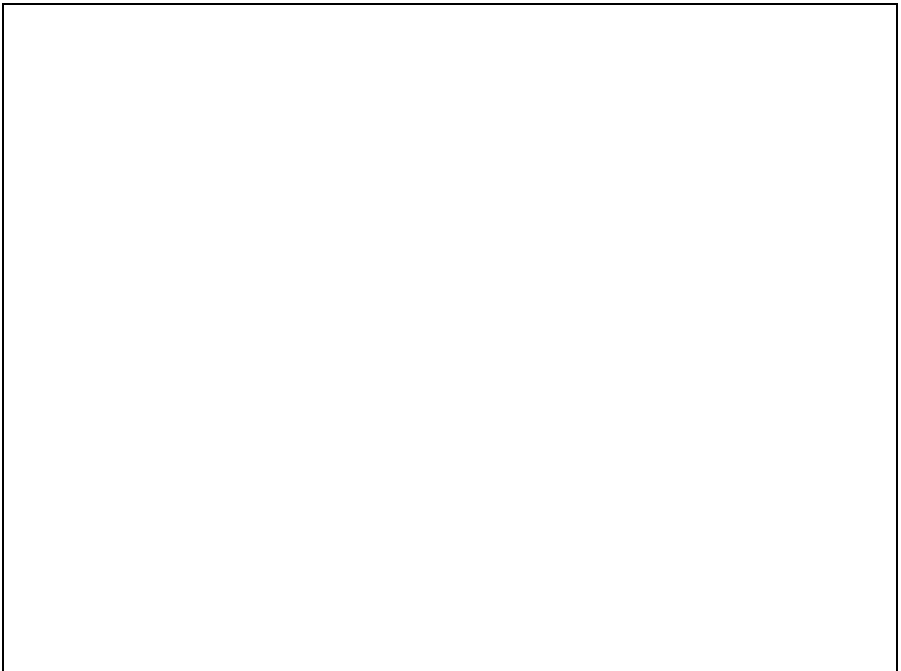
## **stop and think!**

Read 1 Corinthians 15:1-5. What do these verses mean?  
Are there any words you don't understand?♦

## **put the verses into context**

Read 1 Corinthians 15:1-14 so that you can see the section  
you are studying in its original context

**In the space below try to write down the  
main point of 1 Corinthians 15:1-5!**



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♦ **Scriptures**—The Old Testament

**The Twelve**—The twelve original and closest disciples chosen by Jesus

1. What does Paul want to remind the Corinthians of?

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2. How had the Corinthians responded to the gospel?

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3. How does the gospel save people?

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## THINK IT THROUGH

*How is the gospel to be communicated? See Acts 18:5, Romans 10:14 and Titus 1:3!*

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*What responsibility do you and I have when we hear the gospel?*

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*What does it mean to 'believe in vain'? See vss.11-14, Galatians 1:6-7, and 2 Corinthians 11:3-4!*

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4. The gospel Paul preached is in accordance with what?

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5. As far as the gospel is concerned what **four** things does Paul consider to be of first importance?

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## THINK IT THROUGH

*Explain the significance of Jesus' burial and his appearing to Peter and others?*

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*Explain why according to the Scriptures Jesus had to die?*

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*How do we know that Jesus did in fact die? See Mark 15:44-46!*

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*How do we know that Jesus did in fact rise from the dead?  
See vss.5-9!*

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*What would you say to the person who says Jesus was just  
resuscitated or reincarnated? See Luke 24:36-44!*

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*Why is it essential to believe that the resurrection actually  
happened? See vss. 12-14 and also Romans 1:4 and Acts  
17:30-31!*

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## **other parts of the Bible worth looking at:**

See Exodus 12:1-14, Leviticus 16, Isaiah 53:4-6

## **quotes to think about!**

It is possible to believe something that is not the true gospel and so not be saved...the gospel by which we are saved proclaims particular things about who Jesus is and what Jesus did! - *Richard Coekin*

Faith. This is trust in Christ as he is offered to us in the gospel. It is the channel by which salvation comes to us and is, itself, given to us by God.  
– Peter Jeffrey

**Notes:-**

# Study 4: What is the Gospel?

## ***Galatians 3:6-9: A gospel rooted in the Old Testament!***

<sup>1</sup>You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? Before your very eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed as crucified. <sup>2</sup>I would like to learn just one thing from you: Did you receive the Spirit by observing the law, or by believing what you heard? <sup>3</sup>Are you so foolish? After beginning with the Spirit, are you now trying to attain your goal by human effort? <sup>4</sup>Have you suffered so much for nothing—if it really was for nothing? <sup>5</sup>Does God give you his Spirit and work miracles among you because you observe the law, or because you believe what you heard?

**<sup>6</sup>Consider Abraham: “He believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.” <sup>7</sup>Understand, then, that those who believe are children of Abraham. <sup>8</sup>The Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: “All nations will be blessed through you.” <sup>9</sup>So those who have faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.**

<sup>10</sup>All who rely on observing the law are under a curse, for it is written: “Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the Book of the Law.” <sup>11</sup>Clearly no one is justified before God by the law, because, “The righteous will live by faith.”<sup>12</sup>The law is not based on faith; on the contrary, “The man who does these things will live by them.” <sup>13</sup>Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: “Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree.”<sup>14</sup>He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit. <sup>15</sup>Brothers, let me take an example from everyday life. Just as no one can set aside or add to a human covenant that has been duly established, so it is in this case.

<sup>16</sup>The promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. The Scripture does not say “and to seeds,” meaning many people, but “and to your seed,” meaning one person, who is Christ.

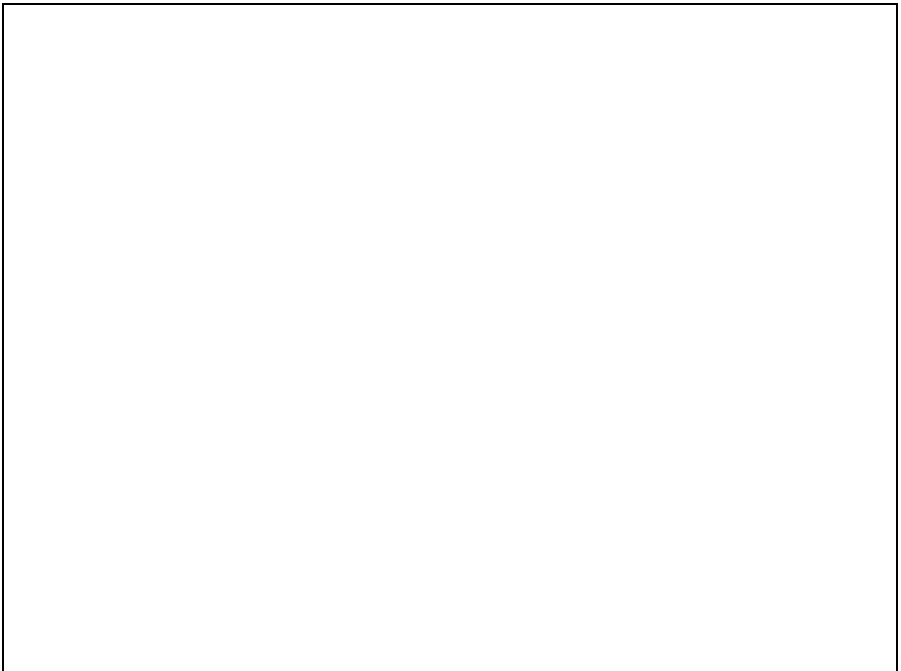
## **stop and think!**

Read Galatians 3:6-9. What do these verses mean?  
Are there any words you don't understand?♦

## **put the verses into context**

Read Galatians 3:1-16 so that you can see the section you  
are studying in its original context

**In the space below try to write down the  
main point of Galatians 3:6-9!**



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♦ **Righteousness**—to be in right standing with someone

**Gentile**—person who is not Jewish by birth

**Faith**—to trust, to believe, to depend or rely upon something or someone

**Justify**—to be found not guilty, to be declared right with God

1. What was credited to Abraham and why?

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2. What do all Christians have in common with Abraham?

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3. What was it that was announced to Abraham?

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## **THINK IT THROUGH**

*What was the basis of Abraham's right standing before God?*

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*Why is it important to become children of Abraham?*

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*What is the gospel according to this passage? See Genesis 12:1-3, 18:18, and Galatians 3:8!*

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*How can this (Gal 3:8) be described as the gospel?*

**IMPORTANT** - See Galatians 3:16 (and vs.19) as well as Genesis 12:7, 13:15, (22:17-18), 24:7!

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4. The Old Testament Scriptures foresaw that God would do what?

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5. What kind of blessing is spoken of in this passage?

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## **THINK IT THROUGH**

*Why is the Old Testament critical in our understanding of the gospel! Think about what you have learned from the previous studies (i.e. cf. Romans 1:2, 3:21 and 1 Corinthians 15:3-4)!*

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*Gentile Christians have more in common with Abraham than unbelieving Jews? Try to explain why! See Romans 2:28-29 and Galatians 3:13-14!*

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*How are we to understand the blessing that Abraham received from God? See Galatians 3:8, 9 and 14!*

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*How should we understand the gospel in the light of this passage?*

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## **other parts of the Bible worth looking at:**

See Joshua 24:2, Acts 7:2-8, Romans 4:1-25, Hebrews 11:1-21

## **quote to think about!**

To the Jew, blessedness was supreme favour from the hands of God...The closer to the immediate presence of God, the greater the blessedness, the further removed from the face of God, the less the blessedness. – R. C. Sproul

We need to start by realizing that the driving force—the powerful engine...of any Christian ministry must be the gospel of Jesus Christ. - *Richard Coekin*

**Notes:-**

## Study 5: What is the Gospel?

### ***Titus 3:3-7: A gospel about the kindness and love of God!***

<sup>1</sup>Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good, <sup>2</sup>to slander no one, to be peaceable and considerate, and to show true humility toward all men.

<sup>3</sup>**At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. <sup>4</sup>But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, <sup>5</sup>he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, <sup>6</sup>whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup>so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.**

<sup>8</sup>This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good. These things are excellent and profitable for everyone.

<sup>9</sup>But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and arguments and quarrels about the law, because these are unprofitable and useless. <sup>10</sup>Warn a divisive person once, and then warn him a second time. After that, have nothing to do with him. <sup>11</sup>You may be sure that such a man is warped and sinful; he is self-condemned.

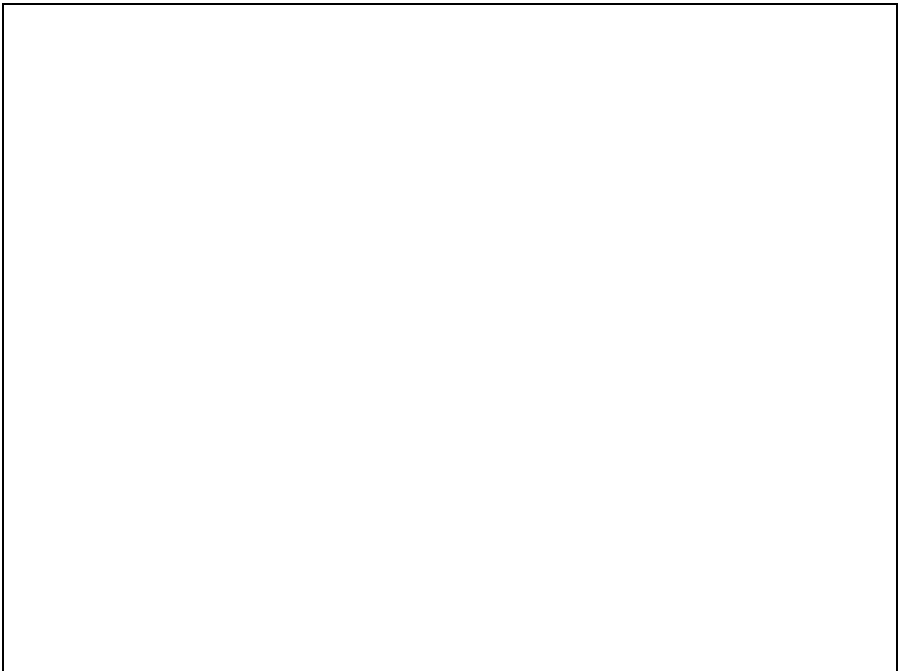
## **stop and think!**

Read Titus 3:3-7. What do these verses mean?  
Are there any words you don't understand?♦

## **put the verses into context**

Read Titus 3:1-11 so that you can see the section you are studying in its original context

**In the space below try to write down the main point of Titus 3:3-7!**



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♦ **Rebirth**—To be given new spiritual life

**Renewal**—Inwardly and outwardly becoming more like Jesus

**Justified**—To be found or declared not guilty

1. How does vs.3 describe us before we experienced God's mercy?

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2. What kind of Savior is God and why?

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3. Read Titus 2:13 and Titus 3:4, what do you notice?

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## THINK IT THROUGH

*Why can you and I take no credit for being saved!*

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*What attitude should we have towards both God and Jesus?  
Try to explain your answer?*

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4. What **three** things are involved in God saving us?

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5. Through whom is the Holy Spirit generously poured?

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## THINK IT THROUGH

*Explain the role of the Holy Spirit in saving a person?  
Compare Titus 3:5 to Ezekiel 36:24-27 (See also 37:1-10)!*

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*Why should we never boast about the righteous things we do as Christians?*

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*Explain why it is impossible to be a Christian without believing in the Trinity? Read Titus 3:4-6 again carefully!*

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6. According to vs.7 being saved means that **what** has happened to us by God's grace?

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7. What does the future hold now that this has happened to us?

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8. Why does Paul in vs.8 want what he has said in vss.3-7 (i.e. the gospel) to be stressed?

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## THINK IT THROUGH

*Can you explain the difference between God's mercy (vs.5) and his grace (vs.7)?*

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*How can you tell when someone is trusting in God? See vs.8 as well as Titus 1:1, 2:11-12, 3:1-2!*

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*What would you say to the person who says 'as long as I believe certain things about God and Jesus it does not matter how I live as a Christian!'*

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## **other parts of the Bible worth looking at:**

See Jeremiah 31:31-34, Ezekiel 36:24-27, Micah 6:8, John 3:3-8

## **quotes to think about!**

Regeneration. In this God gives new life, spiritual life, to those who are dead in sin. – Peter Jeffrey

Sanctification is that inward spiritual work which the Lord Jesus Christ works in a man by the Holy [Spirit], when He calls him to be a true believer. He not only washes him from his sins in His blood, but He also separates him from his natural love of sin and the world, puts a new principle in his heart and makes him practically godly in life. – J. C. Ryle

# Study 6: What is the Gospel?

## *Colossians 1:21-23: A gospel that requires perseverance!*

<sup>15</sup>He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. <sup>16</sup>For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. <sup>17</sup>He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup>And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. <sup>19</sup>For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, <sup>20</sup>and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

**<sup>21</sup>Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. <sup>22</sup>But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation—<sup>23</sup>if you continue in your faith, established and firm, not moved from the hope held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant.**

<sup>24</sup>Now I rejoice in what was suffered for you, and I fill up in my flesh what is still lacking in regard to Christ's afflictions, for the sake of his body, which is the church. <sup>25</sup>I have become its servant by the commission God gave me to present to you the word of God in its fullness—<sup>26</sup>the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the saints. <sup>27</sup>To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

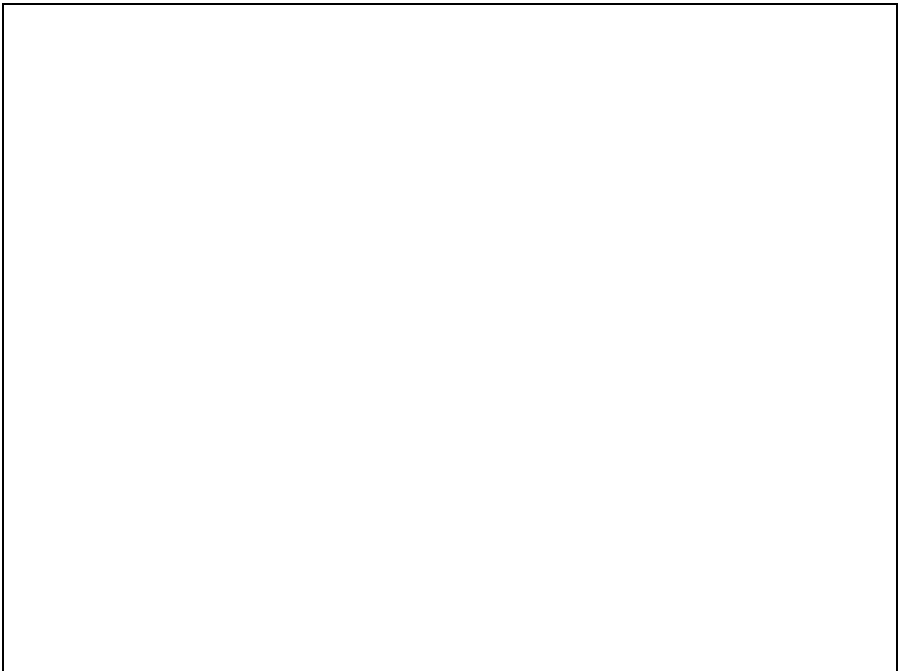
## **stop and think!**

Read Colossians 1:21-23. What do these verses mean?  
Are there any words you don't understand?♦

## **put the verses into context**

Read Colossians 1:15-27 so that you can see the section  
you are studying in its original context

**In the space below try to write down the  
main point of Colossians 1:21-23!**



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♦ **Alienated**—To be hostile or unfriendly towards someone

**Reconciled**—To become friends again after a disagreement with someone

**Holy**—To be like God in character

1. Describe what it means to be alienated from God?

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2. Who took the initiative in bringing about our reconciliation?

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## THINK IT THROUGH

*What kind of language is being used in vss.21-22 to describe the gospel? See Bob Horn quote on page 39.*

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*In what ways will non-believers whether friends, colleagues, fellow students or family members express their alienation from God? See Romans 1:21-25, Eph 4:17-19!*

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*Why can you and I never take the credit for our restored relationship with God? See vs. 19-20!*

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3. Explain how God has reconciled us to himself?

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4. What is God's purpose in reconciling us?

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## THINK IT THROUGH

*What does Paul mean exactly by the phrase 'by Christ's physical body through death'?*

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*Why is this quite shocking in the context of Colossians? See vss.15-17, 19!*

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*In the light of vs.21 how is it possible for God to present us holy in his sight (vs.22)? Think back over previous studies!*

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5. Explain the first part of vs.23 in your own words!

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6. In vs.23 how does Paul describe what he has written in vss.21-23?

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## THINK IT THROUGH

*What would you say to the person who says to you 'once saved always saved'? See Colossians 2:6-7!*

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*What encouragement do we have to continue trusting in the gospel?*

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*From vs.23 what can we learn from Paul's attitude to the gospel? See also Colossians 4:2-6!*

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*Summarise what you have learned about the gospel from this study?*

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## **other parts of the Bible worth looking at:**

See Isaiah 41:8, Romans 5:10, 2 Corinthians 5:17-21, Ephesians 2:16, James 4:4, Jude 20-25

## **quotes to think about!**

On four occasions the New Testament speaks of the work and ministry of Christ in terms of reconciliation. – Peter Jeffrey

...the chief work that Jesus came to perform on earth can be summed up in the word 'reconciliation'. – Desmond Tutu

The Bible describes what the cross achieved using some vivid word pictures...The first word pictures the sphere of relationships: reconciliation. Our lifestyle of choice kept God out, but his death brought us a new relationship with God. – Bob Horn

Reconciliation means the ending of enmity and the making of peace and friendship between persons previously opposed. God and men were at enmity with each other by reason of men's sin; but God has acted in Christ to reconcile sinners to himself through the cross. – J. I. Packer

As part of the process of our sanctification, perseverance is a synergistic work. This means it is a cooperative effort between God and us. We persevere as he preserves. – R. C. Sproul

# Study 7: What is the Gospel?

## *Revelation 14:6-7: A gospel about Lordship and judgement!*

1 Then I looked, and there before me was the Lamb, standing on Mount Zion, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads. 2 And I heard a sound from heaven like the roar of rushing waters and like a loud peal of thunder. The sound I heard was like that of harpists playing their harps. 3 And they sang a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders. No one could learn the song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth. 4 These are those who did not defile themselves with women, for they kept themselves pure. They follow the Lamb wherever he goes. They were purchased from among men and offered as firstfruits to God and the Lamb. 5 No lie was found in their mouths; they are blameless. **6 Then I saw another angel flying in midair, and he had the eternal gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth—to every nation, tribe, language and people. 7 He said in a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come. Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water."** 8 A second angel followed and said, "Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great, which made all the nations drink the maddening wine of her adulteries." 9 A third angel followed them and said in a loud voice: "If anyone worships the beast and his image and receives his mark on the forehead or on the hand, 10 he, too, will drink of the wine of God's fury, which has been poured full strength into the cup of his wrath. He will be tormented with burning sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and of the Lamb. 11 And the smoke of their torment rises for ever and ever. There is no rest day or night for those who worship the beast and his image, or for anyone who receives the mark of his name." 12 This calls for patient endurance on the part of the saints who obey God's commandments and remain faithful to Jesus. 13 Then I heard a voice from heaven say, "Write: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on." "Yes," says the Spirit, "they will rest from their labor, for their deeds will follow them."



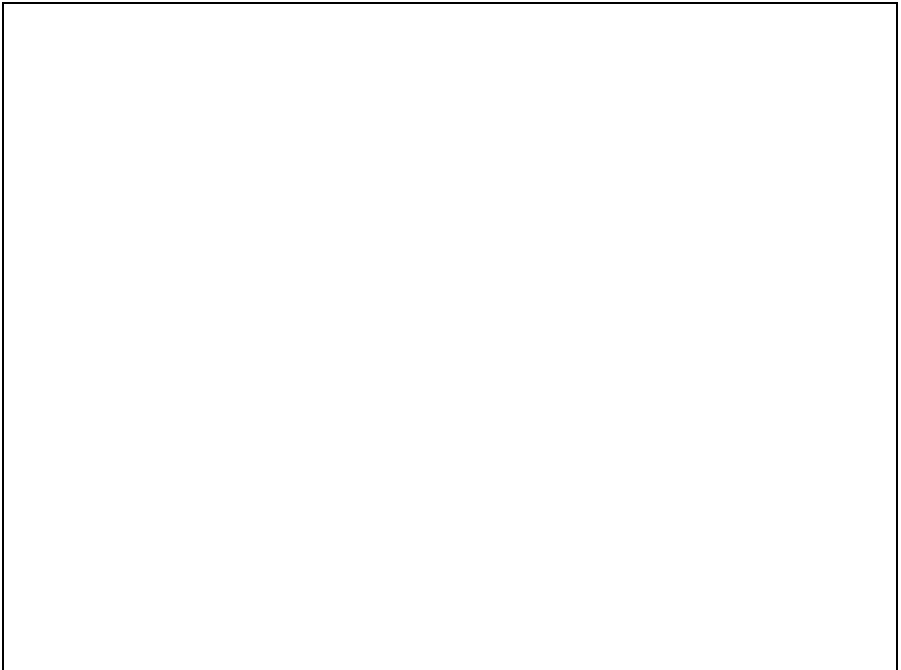
## **stop and think!**

Read Revelation 14:6-7. What do these verses mean?  
Are there any words you don't understand?♦

## **put the verses into context**

Read Revelation 14:1-13 so that you can see the section  
you are studying in its original context

**In the space below try to write down the  
main point of Revelation 14:6-7!**



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♦ **Angel**—A messenger of God

**Proclaim**—To announce or declare something

1. Who or what did the writer see flying in midair?

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2. What did the angel have and why?

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3. Who is this gospel for?

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## **THINK IT THROUGH**

*How would you describe Revelation 14:1-13!*

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*Why is it important that you and I know and understand the gospel?*

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4. Why does the angel say that God is to be feared?

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5. Who is this God that we should worship him?

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## THINK IT THROUGH

In what way will some people be judged! See vss.9-11

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*How are those who worship God described? See vss.4-5 and 12!*

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*What does it mean to worship God? See vs. 12*

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*From vss.6-7, explain why the message of the gospel is so very important?*

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## **other parts of the Bible worth looking at:**

See John 3:3-8

## **quotes to think about!**

If Jesus himself is not both Lord and judge...then there is no genuine pressing need to be right with God or to honour his authority. – Gordon Cheng

As true as it is that God does satisfy the deepest desires and longing of his creatures, this is not the reason for God's existence, nor can it be the reason for our ministry. Right ministry will only flow out of commitment to the true gospel. – Gordon Cheng

# Summary Page: WTG?

For each study complete the sentence below beginning with the phrase 'The gospel is...'

**Study 1 - Romans 1:1-5**      *The gospel is...*

**Study 2 - Romans 3:21-26**      *The gospel is...*

**Study 3 - 1 Corinthians 15:1-6**      *The gospel is...*

**Study 4 - Galatians 3:6-9**      *The gospel is...*

**Study 5 - Titus 3:3-7**      *The gospel is...*

**Study 6 - Colossians 1:21-23**      *The gospel is...*

**Study 7 - Revelation 14:6-7**      *The gospel is...*