

## USE THIS GOSPEL W1

The Gospel. It is one of the most dynamic, powerful, and redemptive stories of love, grace, and mercy. It is a story of Jesus and how he gave the world freedom and new life. But this story is also an invitation from God that we can accept or reject. So whether you have never heard the gospel or you have been in church all your life, or somewhere in between, throughout the next few weeks we will be unpacking the powerful, simple, life giving gospel and how to use this gospel to change the world.

### ILLUSTRATION //

Have you ever seen a movie/tv show or read a book that instantly became your favorite?

- [Illustration // Share a story of your favorite movie, tv show, or book](#)
- There is a story that is above any other story, it is the story of Jesus!
- **The Title of Today's message is The Greatest Story Ever Told**

### SCRIPTURE //

John 3:16 - For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

### TENSION //

We all know this verse but if I told you to tell someone the gospel would you know how to explain it?

### MAIN POINT // Jesus gave His life, so we can receive life.

#### P1 // The Fall

[Illustration // Share a short story of a time you or someone you know fell really hard.](#)

- See, in the gospel story humans had a really hard fall.
- The first book of the bible, Genesis, explains how God created everything including humans, he loved humans and there was perfect unity. But the first humans, Adam and Eve, decided to disobey God which caused a separation between humans and God.
- Sin, which is any nature, action, or thought that separates humans from God, entered the world.
- The effects of a world of sin causes sickness, disease, and chaos. Life away from God only leads to death.
- We are all sinners by nature and by choice
- **Romans 3:23 - FOR ALL HAVE SINNED AND FALL SHORT OF THE GLORY OF GOD.**
- Are you far from God today? Do you feel like you are falling and can't get up?

#### P2 // The Gift

[Illustration // Best gift you have ever received!](#)

- We receive eternal life as a gift.
- **Romans 6:23 - FOR THE WAGES OF SIN [IS] DEATH, BUT THE GIFT OF GOD [IS] ETERNAL LIFE IN CHRIST JESUS OUR LORD.**
- **Romans 5:8 - BUT GOD DEMONSTRATES HIS OWN LOVE TOWARD US, IN THAT WHILE WE WERE STILL SINNERS, CHRIST DIED FOR US.**
- This gift can not be earned by deeds or being a "good person". This undeserved gift was given through Jesus Christ.

- Jesus, who is God, came down from heaven and paid the price we couldn't afford, the price of death and gave us eternal life with Him. This is the greatest gift we can ever receive!
  - Have you accepted this free gift? Have you told anyone about this free gift?

### **P3 // The Decision**

Illustration // Bridge Illustration. We were on one side, God was on the other side. There was a gap because of sin but Jesus is the bridge!

- We were far from God, Jesus made it possible to have eternal life with Him, but now we have a part to play. We have to cross the bridge.
- We must trust in and surrender to Jesus as Lord.
- **Romans 10:9-10 - 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.**
- That is it. God made a way and all we have to do is give our lives to Him. No shortcuts. No other way.
- **John 14:6 - "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.**
- This decision takes you from death to life. This decision makes His story a part of your story. This starts your journey with Jesus!
- Are you ready to make the best decision of your life? Are you ready to see your friends make the best decision of their lives?

Challenge // Tell one friend that doesn't know Jesus the gospel and invite them to the Youth next week.

### **RESPONSE**

- Salvation
- Rededication
- Push to invite friends that don't know Jesus (maybe invite cards?)