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## "WHAT IS THE GOSPEL?"

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### COLOSSIANS 1:3-8 (NASB)

#### I. OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL

**QUESTION:** What is the truth the gospel declares?

**TRUTH:** The gospel is the good news of victory over death, hell, and the grave.

Directives how Christians are to handle the gospel:

1. We are to proclaim it (Matthew 4:23; Mark 16:15).
2. We are to defend the gospel (Philippians 1:17).
3. We are to labor in the gospel (Philippians 1:27).
4. We are to enjoy the fellowship of holding to the gospel together (Philippians 1:3-5).
5. We are not to hinder the gospel (1 Corinthians 9:12).
6. We are not to be ashamed of it (Romans 1:16).
7. We're empowered to preach it (1 Thessalonians 1:5).

#### II. WHAT IS THE GOSPEL? 1 Corinthians 15:1-4

#### III. THE PRINCIPLES OF THE GOSPEL

1. The gospel is received by faith (vv. 3-4; Galatians 1:7; Romans 10:16, Mark 1:14).

**TRUTH:** The gospel is to be believed.

**TRUTH:** Faith is a gift of God (Ephesians 2:8-9).

HOW DO YOU KNOW YOU'VE BELIEVED AND ARE SAVED?

2. The gospel results in love (v. 4).

**TRUTH:** Faith doesn't lead to isolation (John 13:34).

3. The gospel rests in hope (v. 5; 1 Peter 1:4; Hebrews 6:18-19).

**TRUTH:** It is better to stake our lives on God's truth and believe in what we can't see, than to stake our lives on what we can see... that's our HOPE.

4. The gospel reaches the world (v. 6; Revelation 7:9ff).

**CLOSING:** 1 Corinthians 15:2

**TRUTH:** We are saved by the gospel message, and the reality that we are saved is that we continue to stand in it.