

## Back to Basics: The Gospel

### Key Scriptures:

Mark 1:17-18 And Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men." <sup>18</sup> And immediately they left their nets and followed him.

Matthew 28:18-20 <sup>18</sup> And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

2 Timothy 2:2 and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.

Acts 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Colossians 3:12-13 <sup>12</sup> Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; <sup>13</sup> bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.

<sup>NET</sup> Philippians 1:27 Only conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ so that— whether I come and see you or whether I remain absent— I should hear that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind, by contending side by side for the faith of the gospel,

<sup>KKV</sup> Col 4:5-6 In wisdom walk toward those who are outsiders, making the most of the opportunities.

**Key Point:** We need to continually go back to the fundamental truths of the gospel and discipleship. They are the very essence and power in living the Christian life.

## TALK IT OVER

**Start talking:** Pick a conversation starter for your group.

- Vince Lombardi started with the basics by saying, "Gentlemen, this is a football." What's something in your life—hobby, work, or faith—that you've had to go back to the basics on to improve?

**Reflect, Think, & Share:** Read through the key scriptures and share any observations or questions with the group.

- What do Mark 1:17, Matthew 28:18-20, 2 Timothy 2:2, and Acts 1:8 tell us about the key components in being a disciple and making disciples?
- Colossians 3:12-13 gives examples for Christians of how we live, how we forgive, how we work, how we put up with difficult situations, finds its source in the gospel. Can you think of other implications of the gospel? In other words, what things must flow out of our lives because we believe the gospel and are empowered by what Jesus did for us?
- What do you think is involved in the command of Philippians 1:27, to conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel?
- Read Galatians 2:1-14. Paul opposed Peter when his conduct was not in step with the truth of the gospel. What do you think it was that "tripped" Peter up in living out the gospel? Why do you think it's easy for even mature believers to struggle with living out the gospel?
- Are you working on obeying Colossians 4:5-6 in any way currently? What are the challenges you face? How could others help or encourage you?
- The sermon mentioned multiple ways to take next steps in faith, whether through learning, serving, discipling, or obeying in a new way. What is one specific step you feel God is calling you to take next? Is this step related to the gospel in any way?

**Start doing:** Instead of simply trying to do the moral thing or the Christian thing, how can you live your life as if it is flowing out of the gospel? Are there any outsiders that you need wisdom to best use the opportunities God has laid before you?

**Prayer Requests.** Take some time to pray together. Use the key scriptures as a guide in praying the scriptures back to God.

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