

The Good News Gospel:

The reason I chose this topic was to **equip** us with scripture about this Good News Gospel, when we are in the world talking to people, and also to **remind** ourselves that it is only through Christ that we have our salvation; and that all is welcome!

Foundational themes

- **He chose me**

- **Gen 1: 26&28** 26 Then God said, "**Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness**; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." 28 **Then God blessed them**, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."
- **Ephesians 1:5-7** having **predestined us to adoption** as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will

- **He pursues me**

- **Gen 3:8-9** 8 And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. 9 Then the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, "Where are you?"
 - The first time we read about God pursuing us
 - After the first sin, immediately God pursued
 - He did not say, okay let's start over...
- The parable **Luke 15:3-10** about the lost sheep
 - He goes looking for the one
- **Psalms 23:6** Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;
 - Shall follow me - **Radap = Hebrew word**
 - Radap more accurately translates to
 - To pursue
 - To chase, or to run after

- **He died for me**

- **2 Cor 5:21** God made Him (Jesus) who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him (Jesus) we might become **the righteousness of God**.
 - Not through our own righteousness.
- **Ephesians 1:7** In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace.

- ***I Have an inheritance in Him***
 - **Romans 8:17** and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.
 - **1 Peter 1:4** to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,
 - **Ephesians 1:11** also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will,

What do we have to do to gain access to this inheritance?

- **Acts 4:12** Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.”
- **John 14:6** Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.
 - All we need to do is except Him
 - That is the wonderful thing about this Gospel, we do not need to do anything to qualify us apart from believe, because He has done it all for us!
 - It is only through faith in Christ that we are saved and NOTHING else.

(1) So where do we as believers get stuck?

- Works, festivals, new moons, food.

JESUS plus nothing!

- We can not be saved by our own works
- Paul writes in Ephesians:
 - ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹not a result of works, so that no one may boast.
- In fact we read in Isaiah 64:6
 - We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment/filthy rags (NKJV).

ROUGH... why is that good news?

Side Note: I have an unbelieving friend that asked why is all my works viewed as a filthy rag?

- The focus is on the wrong place

It is Good news because!

- It is not what I do, but what He did for me!
- It is Good news because if the focus is on Him and not on me, and **my righteous works can't qualify me** then that also means that **my unrighteous or bad works can't disqualify me!**
- This means I am free from having to continually prove my worth or devotion to Him

- This means I am free from having to compete and compare MY works with YOUR grand works to find favor in His sight.
Because it is not about what I bring to the table, it is about what he brought to the table: Salvation through His blood!!!
- He says His yoke is light! **Matt 11:30**

Do you know that trying to justify yourself through works can become a stumbling block for yourself?

1. Not just because it is almost as if you are denying the Gift of God on the Cross
 - **Gal 2:21** I do not set aside the grace of God, for **if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!**
 - And you are back to the place where you try to justify yourself through the law which is impossible, because Eph 2:16 says that no one can be Justified by the Law.
 - **Eph 2:16** know that a person is not justified by the works of the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law, because by the works of the law no one will be justified.
2. But also, because you set yourself up to stumble through pride:
 - **Eph 2:8 - 9** ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹**not a result of works, so that no one may boast.**
 - **Pride is a sin**
 - **If you try and justify yourself through works, and pride creeps in, you have already failed**
 - Example of this would be the pharisees and sadducees
 - **Matt 23** Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites!
 - **Matt 23:33**“You snakes! You brood of vipers! How will you escape being condemned to hell?”

**Without Jesus we have nothing
It is Jesus plus nothing**

So, why do people revert back to works if the Bible says that it is only through Grace that we can be saved?

- There is obviously more nuanced reasons than what I can think of, for example interpretation of scripture, but I think that most of the time it comes down to:
 - We struggle to accept the grace of God.
 - We find it difficult to accept a Gift without deserving it.

And it feels like the common theme to this is that, **we do not find acceptance and reason in ourselves for God to accept and love us!**

But again, that is the Good News of This Gospel!!!

GRACE for people in different seasons !!

With that said... I also believe we should **not necessarily dispute these things** with new believers or if we **do not have a good enough relationship** with the person you are talking with **to prevent possible doubt in their hearts!**

We read in **Rom 14:1-4**

Receive one who is weak in the faith, *but* not to disputes over doubtful things. **2** For one believes he may eat all things, but he who is weak eats *only* vegetables. **3** Let not him who eats despise him who does not eat, and let not him who does not eat judge him who eats; **for God has received him.** **4** Who are you to judge another's servant? To his own master he stands or falls. **Indeed, he will be made to stand, for God is able to make him stand.**

- **Rom 14:6** He who eats, eats to the Lord, for he gives God thanks; and he who does not eat, to the Lord he does not eat, and gives God thanks.
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Back to the topic of work!

What about scripture that speaks about **walking properly, not in revelry, drunkenness, lewdness and lust, not in strife or envy**. Do not give provision for the flesh to fulfill its lusts?

- These are good guidelines to give you the best possible life you can have!
- Explain from a Biokineticists point of view.
 - When a Bio sees you have bad biomechanics, weak muscles, or poor technique, **we help correct it for you, through good guidelines and instruction.**
 - **You might not think it's necessary** (which is sometimes the case) but the result will be better than what you would have had without those guidelines and instructions.
 - And it's not easy in the beginning, because you want to revert back to those old habits and it takes a bit of concentration in the beginning, BUT it does become easier.
- **And no one looks back and think they were better of before those helpful guidelines**
 - Because now when you jump, your knees don't hurt.
 - And in the same way with spiritual instruction you are spared from a lot of emotional pain and baggage.

??What about the **Book of James** where it speaks about, faith without works is dead??

- James is saying:
 - Works from a place of salvation, not works for salvation

Remember: we are still called to reach God's people, the same way **He chased and loved us we are called to chase and love others!**

He believes enough in us to **entrust** us with this responsibility! He says we are capable, not because we are awesome, but because He is and gave His spirit to us!

When we are saved, it is almost as if we are set into motion, cut to the heart, and excited to do works for the Kingdom, but from a place of salvation!

- But, again this is not for salvation, but rather through salvation!

(2) Then Finally, something else people struggle with and ask the question about is:

- The topic of “predestined” (Calvinism), that God chooses beforehand who goes to Heaven and who doesn’t.
- That we don’t have free will, and that it doesn’t matter if I choose God, because if He doesn’t choose me then I will go to hell.

Firstly, let us explain predestined, through an example:

- If you are born into a kingdom, and you are the child of a King, then you are automatically predestined to the inheritance of that Kingdom.
- You still have the choice to run away from your father the King and your inheritance, but from the beginning that was your inheritance. And if you come back to it, It will still be your inheritance, if your father the King is a Good Father.

In the same way, that is exactly what we have!

- We are predestined through adoption to be co-heirs in Christ! **Rom 8:17**
- Which means we are predestined to an inheritance
- But we can choose not to accept it by not accepting Christ, but from the start we had an inheritance.
- And luckily, if we do run away from it, we can always come back and God will receive us with open arms because we do have a good good Father!
 - Example: the Parable of the lost son **Luke 15:11**

Secondly, the Kingdom is for everyone, not just a few chosen people only.

- The Bible is clear that everyone is welcome, that He died for everyone!
 - The parable of the wedding feast **Matt 22**
 - “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that **whoever** believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the **world** might be saved through him.” **John 3:16-17**

In conclusion:

We have very Good news, we have an inheritance that we do not have to earn, and that is open to all! **Because He loves us, made us, and perseus us!**