

STUDY QUESTIONS CONT'D

9. What is the difference between knowing about Jesus and knowing Him relationally?
10. Do you know Christ? If not, the good news of Jesus is explained below.

WHAT IS THE GOSPEL?

The word “gospel” means “good news.” The Gospel, or good news, of Jesus Christ is that He did what no one could ever do. You see, God loves us, but ever since Adam and Eve sinned against God, every human being has sinned and therefore cannot come into God’s presence because He is holy and perfect. As much as we try, we cannot bridge the gap to God because of our sinful nature. We can never be good enough to reach God. Good works, religion, philosophy and morality all fall short of God’s perfection.

God loves us so much that He sent His Own Son, Jesus Christ, to bridge the gap (John 3:16). Jesus did what no one else could ever do, because He is both God and human, born to Mary. He took upon Himself the punishment we deserve, dying on the cross in our place. Now, through a relationship with Jesus Christ, we can come before a holy God. That is the good news! We enter a relationship with Jesus by placing our faith and trust in Him and Him alone for our salvation. Do you have a relationship with Jesus Christ?

The good news doesn’t end there. Not only can we have eternal life through Jesus, but we also now can live without being condemned because of sin. Jesus paid the price for our sins, and He lives within those who have placed their trust in Him. In Christ, not only have we secured our future in eternity with God, but we have the Holy Spirit living in us to help us today to live for Christ. For more information on how to know God, check our website at www.gbcmilescity.com.



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Small Group Study Guide
Pastor Jerry Coon – October 1, 2017

SERMON NOTES

The Church *‘ekklesia’ the ‘called out’*

1. IT MAY BE USED TO SIGNIFY
 - a. The entire body of those who have come to Christ Jesus as their savior. - Churches in Asia, Galatia, Macedonian – used to describe a body of believers in all places as the Body of Christ.
 - b. A single organized body of believers in one local place worshipping together Christ Jesus.

(1 Cor. 1:2) ²To the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all who in every place call on the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours:

2. THE BEGINNING OF THE CHURCH:
 - a. It began on the day of Pentecost in Acts 2 – of an out pouring of the Holy Spirit.
 - b. It was founded upon the death, burial, resurrection and ascension of Christ Jesus.
(Acts 2:22-24, 32-33)

3. THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN JESUS AND THE CHURCH
(Eph. 1:22-23) (Eph. 5:23-30)

Jesus is the head of the church

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SERMON NOTES

4. KNOWING CHRIST

(Eph. 1:17) “and revelation in the knowledge of Him”

A revealing of the knowledge of Jesus. – To get to know Him.

‘The knowledge of one you are fully acquainted with’

(John 17:3) “And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.”

1) HOPE – What is the hope of His calling? Our hope is knowing.
(Eph. 1:18) “The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling.”

2) RICHES - 1:18 – The riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints.

Think of it: He owns all the heavens and numberless worlds, but we are His treasures. The redeemed are worth more than the universe. And Paul prays we see this with the eyes of your hearts.

3) THE POWER – “The exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe.”

It is the energizing force of the Holy Spirit that empowers believers to live for the Lord.

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. Why did God choose to reach the world through the Church?
2. How would you rate the Church? Is the Church today reaching people for Christ, or is it failing?
3. How was the birth of the Church at Pentecost connected with the Holy Spirit?
4. Why do we call the Church the body of Christ?
5. How did Christ show the extent of His love for the Church?
6. What does it mean that we as Christians are “members of His body?”
7. Read Ephesians 5:22-33. What is the connection between the Church and the Husband/Wife relationship?
8. What is the significance of the fact that Jesus is the head of the Church?