

# The Big Kahoona

(Insights from 1 Corinthians 15:1-11)

Pastor Bob Johnson, Grace Point Church, May 22nd, 2016

The word 'Gospel' means ...

Overview of the passage: (1 Cor. 15:1-11)

Three Questions To Consider:

1. How can someone ...  
(1 Cor 15:1-2)
2. What must we \_\_\_\_\_ to be right with God?  
(1 Cor. 15:1-4)

The Two Gospel Truths we rely on:

- 1) *That Jesus ...*
- 2) *That Jesus ...*

The two needs everyone has, but not everyone wants:

- 1) A \_\_\_\_\_: *The substitutionary atonement*  
(Galatians 2:21, 3:13, John 3:14-18, 1 Peter 2:24, 1 Timothy 2:5-6, Hebrews 2:5-6, 7:27, 9:22)
  - 2) A \_\_\_\_\_: *The supremacy of Jesus*  
(Romans 1:1-4, Col 3:17, 1 John 2:2-6, Matthew 19:16-23)
3. Have we been presenting the ...  
(1 Cor. 15:1-4)

## This Week's Discussion Guide:

Welcome to "Week 8" of this season of our small groups at GPC! Including this meeting, we have five more discussions before we take a summer break. Our last small group meeting will be the week of June 19th and then we will take the rest of June, July and August off.

### Getting Started:

Looking back at your notes from last Sunday, what did you find most interesting, challenging or thought provoking as we took a look at 1 Corinthians 15:1-11?

Last Sunday, the message centered around understanding the gospel which means God's Good News regarding our sin problem and what needed to happen in order for our relationship with God to be restored.

What Jesus chose to do for us is the best news of all. We have all had other good news that has caused us to be thankful. What other 'good news' have you heard in the past few years that caused you to celebrate what you heard or experienced?

Bob mentioned that sadly, too often in churches, the gospel of Jesus Christ gets diluted or even deleted from our focus as other things take center stage in our conversations. Other than being known for believing and sharing the gospel, if we are not careful, what other things might become the focus of what we talk about and are known for in our surrounding communities?

### Digging Deeper:

1. In 1 Corinthians 15:1-2, Paul says it is possible to believe in Jesus Christ in vain. In unpacking what this meant, Bob shared several types of beliefs. The first belief is "I think something is probably true but it has no impact on my life." What are some examples of a few of these for you?

The second type of belief is, "I believe something is not probably true but definitely true and factual but it still has no

impact on my life. What are some examples of a few of these for you?

The third type of belief is trusting something that is true enough that it impacts the way you live. You have chosen to act on your belief. What are some examples of a few of these for you?

In regards to the importance of not believing in Jesus in vain, look at the following verses and discuss any insights that surface from them:

James 2:19-24

Matthew 7:21-23

2 Corinthians 13:5-6

Read 1 John 5:11-13 and Philippians 1:6. In light of how we still fall short of never sinning again after we accept Christ as Savior and Lord, how can we still have an assurance of our salvation as sinners saved by grace?

**2.** The Good News about Salvation is that in spite of our ongoing struggle with sin, God promises to work in our lives developing our character and behavior as we walk with God over time. As he changes us slowly from the inside out, he provides benefits from being a Christ follower. Based on the verses below, what benefits do we receive as a result of Jesus' sacrifice and our commitment to follow Him?

2 Corinthians 5:17

Acts 1:8

Romans 5:1

Romans 8:37-39

**3.** Bob shared the two things that we can reflect on from Jesus' death and resurrection is his substitutionary atonement and his supremacy.

Atonement refers to the pardoning of our sin and enabling our relationship with God to be restored. Reflect on the following verses related to what Jesus' death provides and share any more insights that come from these passages:

Galatians 2:21, 3:13

John 3:14-18

1 Peter 2:24

1 Timothy 2:5-6

Hebrews 7:27, 9:22

Bob mentioned that Jesus' supremacy is related to his resurrection as seen in Romans 1:1-4. The supremacy of Christ refers to the authority of Jesus by affirming that He was who He claimed to be - God in the flesh. Reflect on the following verses related to Jesus being more than a consultant in our lives as we follow Him as King of Kings.

Colossians 1:15-23, 3:17

1 John 2:2-6

Matthew 19:16-23

**4.** Realizing the importance of being ready to share the gospel when an opportunity arises, how can we as a small group help each other be prepared when God gives us the opportunity to share the best news of all with someone?

How many of us feel ready to share the gospel if an opportunity presented itself? Let's set a goal that by the end of this small group season, we would all be able to share a short gospel summary.

Lastly, how can we pray for each other as we wrap up?