

## Chapter 3: Keeping the Good News Good

### Up For Discussion:

1. Who makes the gospel as muddy as possible, and why does he do it? (Page 37)

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2. What is wrong with each of these invitations when you compare them to the gospel?

- a. Make Jesus Lord of your life (Page 37)

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- b. Follow Jesus and be His disciple (Page 41)

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- c. Give your life to God (Page 42)

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- d. Promise to stop sinning (Page 43)

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- e. Turn from sin (Page 43)

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- f. Be sorry for your sin (Page 44)

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- g. Promise to live for Jesus (Page 45)

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### Crucial Point:

Hypothetically, you give a gospel with an unclear invitation to several people. When you get to Heaven, you find out that one more person would've been saved from Hell had you used a clear invitation. Isn't that one soul worth making sure you are clear when presenting the gospel? The truth is when someone gives an unclear gospel, more than just one person is affected. We need to make the effort to learn and present a clear gospel.

**Make It Personal:**

1. Was there a time before you were saved that you didn't trust Christ because you misunderstood the gospel? How many lost people do you know that perhaps the only reason why they are not saved is because they don't understand the gospel?

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2. Think about how you present the gospel. Do you keep the good news good, or do you add a hint of works by using a cliché that is dear to your heart but is not in the Scriptures?

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**Assignment:**

Why do people teach "Lordship Salvation" (Page 37) when it is clearly opposed to Scripture? (Page 41)

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What is the real answer to carnality? (Page 41)

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**Up For Discussion:**

1. What is wrong/can be wrong with each of these invitations when you compare them to the gospel?

- a. Confess/Profess Jesus (Page 45)

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- b. Take Jesus in your heart (Page 51)

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- c. Give your heart to God (Page 53)

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- d. Walk forward (Page 53)

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- e. Pray a prayer (Page 54)

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- f. Join our church/be baptized by our church (Page 54)

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2. Why should we not use the term “take Jesus in your heart” when talking with children? (Page 52)

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**Crucial Point:**

Obviously, it is not wrong to confess/profess Jesus, walk forward, pray, join a church, or be baptized. However, it is critical that we make it very clear that these things are not required for salvation, nor do they contribute to salvation. Salvation is completely free apart from any works.

**Make It Personal:**

1. Do you go out of your way to avoid even “the smell of works”? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Do you use tracts when witnessing? If so, do they go out of their way to avoid even the “smell of works”? \_\_\_\_\_ ... \_\_\_\_\_

**Assignment:**

The section **Give your heart to God** (Page 53) talks about all the things we are required to give to God for salvation.

List them.

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Explain your answer(s) above.

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**Memorize:**

**John 3:36** He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

**Ephesians 2:1-3** And you *hath he quickened*, who were dead in trespasses and sins; <sup>2</sup> Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: <sup>3</sup> Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

**Romans 12:1** I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service.

**Romans 10:9** That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

**Romans 10:14** How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?

**1 Corinthians 3:16** Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and *that* the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?

**Ephesians 1:13** In whom ye also *trusted*, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,

**Take Test 2: Chapters 2 and 3**