

Getting the Gospel Straight – Part II

I. The second indispensable teaching of the Gospel is teaching about _____.

- A. Sin is another word that _____ a *lot* of teaching.
1. For your neighbor, sin equals mistakes, imperfections, shortcomings, failing to measure up to his own standards or the expectations of others (society).
 2. Or more likely your neighbor denies in general that he sins and reserves that word mostly for horrible atrocities.
 3. Your neighbor probably thinks of himself as essentially a _____ person.
 4. Our task in *all* evangelism is to teach “good people” that the Bible says they are _____.

II. The _____ reveals sin

A. Scriptures

1. Romans 3:20 – By the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the **Law** comes the knowledge of **sin**.
2. Romans 7:7 – I would not have come to know **sin** except through the **Law**.
3. Galatians 3:24 – Therefore the **Law** has become our tutor to lead us to Christ, so that we may be justified by faith.

B. The first and greatest commandment.

1. Acts 17:24-27 – God creates, sustains, and oversees all men and women toward one end – *that* they should _____ after Him.
2. Daniel 5:23 – You have exalted yourself against the Lord of heaven... the God in whose hand are your life-breath and all your ways, you have not _____.
3. Matthew 22:35-40 – A lawyer, asked [Jesus] a question, testing Him, “Teacher, which is **the great commandment in the Law?**” And He said to him, “**“YOU SHALL _____ THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.” This is the great and foremost commandment.** The second is like it, ‘YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.’ On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets.”

C. The Ten Commandments reveal specifically what the first and greatest commandment _____ (Exodus 20:3-17).

1. You shall have no other gods before Me.
2. You shall not make for yourself an idol.
3. You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain.
4. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.
5. Honor your father and your mother.
6. You shall not murder.
7. You shall not commit adultery.
8. You shall not steal.
9. You shall not bear false witness.
10. You shall not covet.

D. James 2:10 – For whoever **keeps the whole law** and yet **stumbles in one point**, he has become **guilty of all**.

1. Your neighbor thinks he's good because he's kept a _____ of the last six commandments.
2. Our job in evangelism:

E. The Sermon on the Mount

1. Matthew 5:20 – I say to you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.
2. Man's laws have only to do with _____ actions. Jesus showed that God's law has *everything* to do with the _____!
3. Matthew 5:21-22 – You have heard that the ancients were told, "YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT MURDER" and "Whoever commits murder shall be liable to the court." But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be guilty before the court; and whoever says to his brother, "You good-for-nothing," shall be guilty before the supreme court; and whoever says, "You fool," shall be guilty enough to go into the fiery hell.
4. Matthew 5:27-28 – You have heard that it was said, "YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY"; but I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.
5. Proverbs 21:2 – Every man's way is right in his own eyes, But the LORD weighs the hearts.
6. Luke 16:15 – And [Jesus] said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves in the sight of men, but God knows your hearts; for that which is highly esteemed among men is detestable in the sight of God."
7. Your neighbor thinks he's good because he measures himself by his _____ actions.
8. Our job in evangelism:

F. Biblical Illustration: The moral rich man (Luke 18:18-26)

III. _____ have sinned

- A. Romans 3:10-12, 23 – There is **none righteous**, not even one; there is none who understands, there is **none who seeks for God**; all have turned aside, together they have become useless; there is **none who does good**, there is not even one... for **all have sinned** and fall short of the glory of God.
- B. Since we have already taken our neighbor to the Law, these verses can now carry their _____ of condemnation.

IV. Sin makes us _____ before God.

A. This does not mean that we _____ about ourselves and the wrong things we have done.

B. This means that we know in our hearts that we are deserving objects of God's everlasting _____.

1. Romans 2:5-6, 8-9 – But because of your stubbornness and unrepentant heart you are storing up wrath for yourself in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God, who WILL RENDER TO EACH PERSON ACCORDING TO HIS DEEDS: ... to those who are selfishly ambitious and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, wrath and indignation. There will be tribulation and distress for every soul of man who does evil.

✓ Our job in evangelism:

2. Galatians 5:19-21 – Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

3. Revelation 21:8 – But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.

✓ Our job in evangelism:

V. How we distort the Gospel teaching about sin in our evangelism.

A. Sin is one of the most unpopular words in the church today because clear, biblical teaching about sin is not _____.

B. We replace sin with the _____ of sin.

1. The problem is not:

2. The problem is:

3. We *must* be bluntly honest, but still _____.

C. We portray sin as that which makes us a _____ instead of that which makes us _____.

1. Example – Four Spiritual Laws

a. 1st Law – God loves you and offers a wonderful plan for your life. (But why is it that most people are not experiencing the abundant life?)

- b. 2nd Law – Man is sinful and separated from God. Therefore, he cannot know and experience God's love and plan for his life.

2. We must be very careful about using felt needs as an _____
for evangelism.

Conclusion

- A. *Everyone* needs teaching about law, sin, and guilt.
 1. Even the “ _____ ”
 - a. He must learn to see his wrong-doing as a breaking of _____ law.
 - b. He must see that he is *deserving* not just of fines or imprisonment, but of _____.
 2. Even the _____ and _____
 - ✓ We can be compassionate and tender toward these people while at the same time calling them to a true, biblical understanding of their sin.
- B. Our job is *not* to _____ people of their sin. This is the work of the Holy Spirit (John 16:7-8)!
- C. Use the _____!
 1. The Great Commandment (flows from who God is as Creator, Sustainer, Ruler, Father; Acts 17:24-27; Matthew 22:35-40)
 2. The Ten Commandments (explain what the Great Commandment requires; Exodus 20:3-17)
 3. Broken one, broken all (James 2:10)
 4. The Sermon on the Mount (the heart of the Ten commandments; Matthew 5:20-22, 27-28; Proverbs 21:2; Luke 16:15)
 5. The moral rich man (example/illustration; Luke 18:18-26)
 6. Closing the case
 - a. All have sinned (Romans 3:10-12, 23)
 - b. All are guilty (Romans 2:5-6, 8-9; Galatians 5:19-21; Revelation 21:8)
- D. The Gospel teaching about sin is for *us* too.

Teaching our Children

- Q. What do you think your unsaved friend or neighbor might think about sin? (What does he think sin is?)
A. He probably thinks that sin is just the really bad things that people do who deserve to be arrested and go to jail.
Or he might think that sin is just his mistakes – when he doesn't do what other people expected of him.
- Q. Does your unsaved friend or neighbor think of himself as a *sinful* person?
A. No! In fact, he probably thinks of himself as basically a good person.
- Q. If we want to tell the Gospel to this friend/neighbor, what do we need to spend time teaching him about?
A. We need to teach him about what the Bible says sin *really* is.
- Q. What do we need to show our unsaved neighbor/friend so that he can understand what sin really is?
A. We need to show him God's Law (See Scriptures under II. A.).
- Q. What is the greatest commandment in all of God's Law?
A. Matthew 22:35-40 (cf. Acts 17:24-27; Daniel 5:23 – See II. B.)
- Q. How do we know the specific things that this Great Commandment requires us to do?
A. The Ten Commandments show us how to keep the greatest commandment of all (See II. C.).
- Q. How can we show our neighbor/friend that even if he thinks he has kept most of God's laws, it is still not enough?
A. James 2:10 (In God's sight, breaking only *one* commandment makes us just as guilty as if we had broken all of them – See II. D.)
- Q. How can we show our neighbor/friend that even if he keeps God's laws in his outward actions, it is still not enough?
A. Matthew 5:20-22, 27-28; Proverbs 21:2; Luke 16:15 (See II. E.)
- Q. What is a good Bible story that you can tell your unsaved neighbor/friend to show that there are lots of "good people" who will never get into heaven?
A. See Luke 18:18-26
- Q. After we have shown our neighbor/friend what God's Law is, what are some good verses that we can use to show him that the Bible says *he* is a sinner who has broken God's laws?
A. Romans 3:10-12, 23 (See III. A.)
- Q. Once your neighbor/friend understands what sin really is, and once he understands that the Bible says *he* is a sinner, then we need to help him see what he *deserves* because of his sin. What does he deserve?
A. He deserves God's everlasting wrath (Hell – See Scriptures under IV. B.).
- Q. Do you have to try and convict your neighbor/friend of his sin (make him feel his guilt)?
A. No! Only the Holy Spirit can do this. Our job is simply to teach him what the Bible says about his sin.

Reflect with your children on our own *guilt* as sinners and law-breakers.

When your neighbor/friend has learned about what the one true *God* of the Bible is *really* like, and when he has learned what the Bible says about *sin*, then he is ready to hear the next teaching of the Gospel (next week)! What do you think the next teaching of the Gospel will be?