

Best Lesson Ever: The Gospel Is For Everyone

Introduction

Review of the Old Testament Framework

The Big Shift

Acts 10-11

Key thought: The gospel is for _____

Scripture: Acts 10-11

Cornelius Sends a Delegation (10:1-8)

Peter's Vision (10:9-16)

14 **But Peter said, "Not so, Lord! For I have never eaten anything common or unclean."**

[Peter was beginning to understand that _____ in the Old Testament pointed to Jesus in the New Testament.]

Summoned to Caesarea (10:17-23)

Peter Meets Cornelius (10:24-33)

28 **Then he said to them, "You know how unlawful it is for a Jewish man to keep company with or go to one of another nation. But God has shown me that I should not call any man common or unclean [phase one: Peter sees _____ in those that are not like him]."**

Preaching to Cornelius' Household (10:34-43)

34 **Then Peter opened *his* mouth and said: "In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality [phase two: Peter sees that all men are _____ by God]."**

The Holy Spirit Falls on the Gentiles (10:44-48)

Acts 11

Peter Defends God's Grace (11:1-18)

15 **And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them, as upon us at the beginning** [they are like us—'us' is _____ here].

18 **When they heard these things they became silent; and they glorified God, saying, "Then God has also granted to the Gentiles repentance to life."** [phase three: _____ the apostles understand that the gospel is for everyone]

Since the gospel is for everyone, our challenge is to be as _____ as we can with it:

- Skin color does not matter to the gospel
- Nationality does not matter to the gospel
- Religions and denominations do not matter to the gospel
- Language and accents do not matter to the gospel
- Physical disability does not matter to the gospel
- Ethnicity does not matter to the gospel
- Social class does not matter to the gospel
- Employment status does not matter to the gospel
- Age does not matter to the gospel
- Gender and gender identity do not matter to the gospel

Application (What is the point?)

1. Everyone except Jesus had/has theological deficiencies
2. _____
 - a. The – there is only one gospel
 - b. Gospel – the gospel is the good news of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus
 - c. Is – we need the gospel before we are saved, at the moment of salvation, and every moment thereafter
 - d. For – the gospel has a purpose—to be shared with everyone
 - e. Everyone –everyone alive now, everyone that ever has been alive, and everyone that will live after us

Personalization (What do I do with that?)

1. Be open to have your theology _____ by God
2. See everyone as savable and _____ with everyone because the gospel is for everyone



Best Lesson Ever: Oh Happy Day! (Church Roadmap or Just another Wedding?)

Introduction

Shiddukhin

Shiddukhin: “ _____ ” ([James 4:4](#), [Ephesians 2:14](#))

1. Initiated by the _____ ([John 5:30](#))
2. An agent was often used: especially when traveling distances ([Galatians 4:6](#), [John 16:8](#))
3. The bridegroom’s choice was important ([John 15:16](#))
4. The bridegroom’s effort was also important to note, reflecting his love ([John 6:38](#))
5. A contract was written as negotiated (including price and promises) and then signed ([Mark 14:24](#), [Hebrews 8:6](#))
6. A _____ was made ([1 Corinthians 11:25](#))
7. The bride’s consent ([1 Peter 1:8](#))

Kiddushin

Kiddushin begins: “ _____ ” ([2 Corinthians 11:2](#))

1. The *mohar* (bride-price) was paid ([1 Peter 1:18-19](#)) by the _____ to the bride’s father/family ([John 3:16](#))
2. The *mattan* was given ([John 14:27](#)) by the _____ to the bride
3. The groom leaves to prepare the bride a new home ([John 14:2](#))
4. The bride is _____/washed ([1 Corinthians 6:11](#))
5. The bride was to be _____ ([1 Corinthians 4:2](#))
6. The bride would be _____ for the bridegroom’s return ([Matthew 24:42](#))
7. The bride was to be ready/ _____ ([Matthew 24:44](#))

Nisuin

Part 1: the taking “ _____ ” (the ceremony begins)

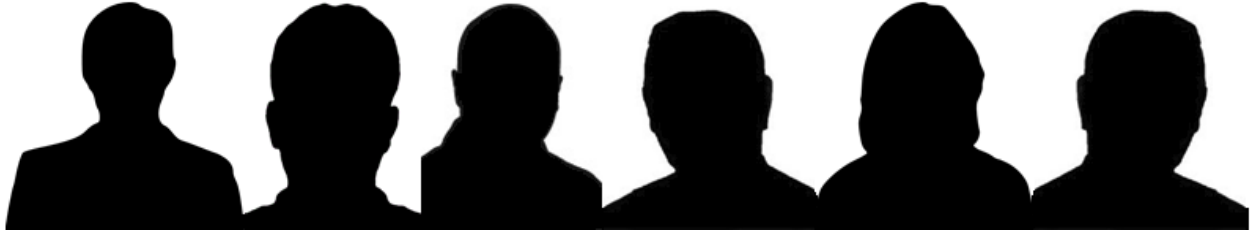
1. The father sends the son to get his bride ([Mark 13:32](#))
2. The son returns to the bride’s _____ ([John 14:3](#))
3. His arrival begins with a _____ ([1 Thessalonians 4:16](#))
4. The groom arrives with his _____/wedding party/groomsman ([1 Thessalonians 4:16](#))
5. The trumpet blasts announce the “Day has arrived” ([1 Corinthians 15:52](#))
6. The bride is _____ ([1 Thessalonians 4:17a](#))
7. The bride goes out to meet the groom ([1 Thessalonians 4:17b](#))

Part 2: the expected _____

1. The crown ([Revelation 4:4](#))
 - a. _____ crown ([1 Corinthians 9:25](#))
 - b. Crown of _____ ([1 Thessalonians 2:19](#))
 - c. Crown of _____ ([2 Timothy 4:8](#))
 - d. Crown of _____ ([James 1:12](#), [Revelation 2:10](#))
 - e. Crown of _____ ([1 Peter 5:4](#))
 - f. Crowns _____ ([Revelation 4:10-11](#))
2. The robes ([Revelation 19:8](#))
3. The feast ([Revelation 19:6-9](#))
4. The future ([1 Thessalonians 4:17b](#))

Application (What is the point?)

1. Our future is set in stone and founded on a Rock
2. That Rock’s name is Jesus
3. Jesus is our bridegroom, our promised one, our *mohar* (bride-price), our love, our home-preparer, our soon coming King, and our perfect match



Best Lesson Ever: Matthew 13: Parables, Presentations, & Priority

Introduction

To grasp properly the concepts presented in [Matthew 13](#) we must first consider the context leading up to the chapter as well as the events that follow the chapter.

Context leading up to [Matthew 13](#):

- Jesus reveals himself as “Lord of the Sabbath,” thereby claiming His deity
- Jesus is rejected by the Jewish (religious) leadership
- The occurrence and revealing of the “unpardonable sin”

Events following [Matthew 13](#):

- John the Baptist is beheaded
- Jesus is transfigured
- His triumphal entry into Jerusalem
- The upper room, Lord’s Supper, and His final Passover feast
- His trial, death, burial, and resurrection
- The ascension

Scripture: Matthew 13

In between these two lists falls [Matthew 13](#) with its seven parables

- I. These parables create a _____ ([Matthew 13:10-17](#))
 - A. The parables were spoken to the _____
 1. The concealment was purposeful
 2. The concealment was prophetic

B. The parables were explained only to the _____

II. Through these parables Christ is revealing the _____

A. It will be available to all

B. It will be available for a certain age

C. Its rejection will be awful

Consider two of the seven parables:

1. The sower

2. The Wheat & the Tares

III. Consider the care in which Jesus concludes ([Matthew 10:49-52](#))

A. Our Lord does not hide any truth

B. He has given the parables

C. He has called the disciples aside to explain the parables

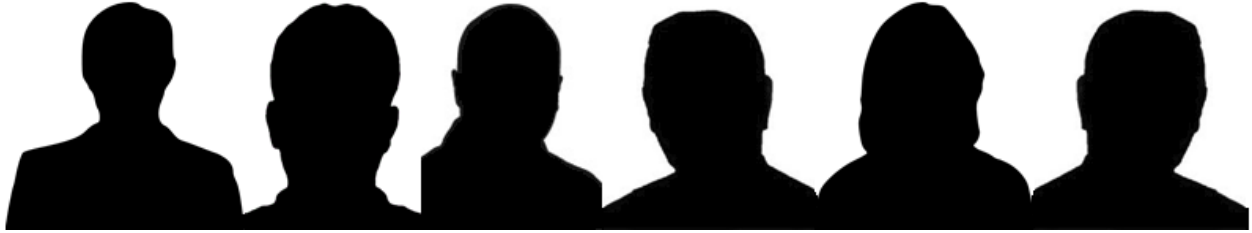
D. Then, Jesus reiterates the severity of final judgment with “plain speak”

Application (What is the point?)

Given the care in which Christ took to speak on the responsibility entrusted to those of us who have “heard and understood,” we cannot afford to be too distracted

Personalization (What do I do with that?)

If we do not carry the message of the Kingdom of Heaven and its consequences, who will?



Best Lesson Ever: God's Position on Salvation

Introduction

Context: Paul has just encouraged through his own personal testimony concerning the gospel.

Key thought: Make God's position on salvation my position

Scripture: Acts 10, 11, 14; Galatians 2:1-5

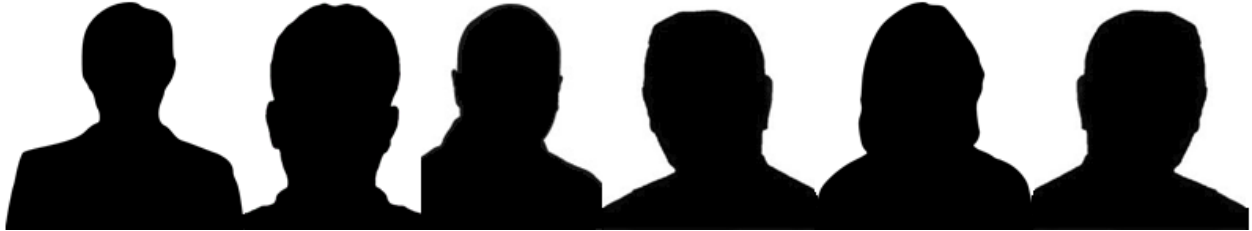
- I. The position is settled ([Acts 10:4-11, 18; 15:7-11](#))
 - A. The problem for Peter
 - B. God's response
 - C. The church's problem
 - D. The issue is resolved in Jerusalem
- II. God's position produces fruit ([Acts 14:22-23](#))
 - A. Many disciples made
 - B. Strengthened their souls
 - C. Preparing for tribulation
 - D. Appointing leadership
- III. Settle the issue in your mind ([Galatians 2:1-3](#))
 - A. Paul goes to Jerusalem
 - B. Paul's purpose for going
 - C. Paul presents a test case
- IV. Be ready to defend your position ([Galatians 2:4-5](#))
 - A. Fake followers exist
 - B. An inside job
 - C. They have a mission
 - D. Do not submit to their false doctrine

Application (What is the point?)

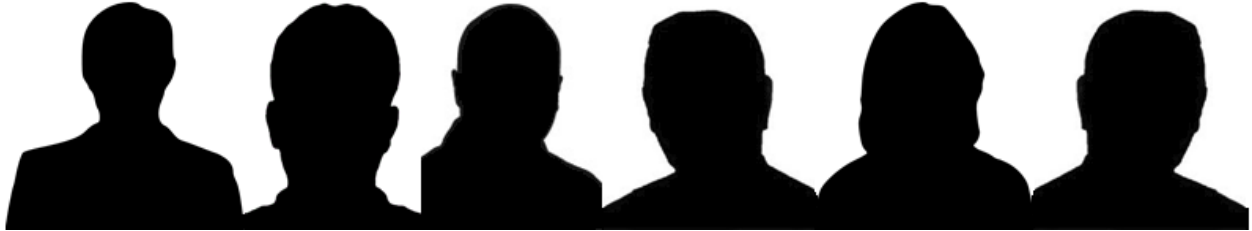
What we think about the gospel determines what we do with it

Personalization (What do I do with that?)

Stick with the simplicity of the gospel



Best Lesson Ever: Bill Brandenburg



Best Lesson Ever: Some thoughts from Mr. Charles

Do you _____ God?

Animals live by _____.

Humans have the greatest power: the power of _____.

Keep My commandments. _____ in My _____.

You are My friends if you keep my _____.

_____ to find His commandments.

_____ one another.

Intercession: _____ and the _____.

True, pure, lovely, of good report: We should _____ on these things.

Our Lord requires us to do _____, to love _____, and to walk _____ with our God.

The Big S's:

Salvation _____

Song _____

Smile _____

Sparkle _____

Spring _____

Share

Serve
