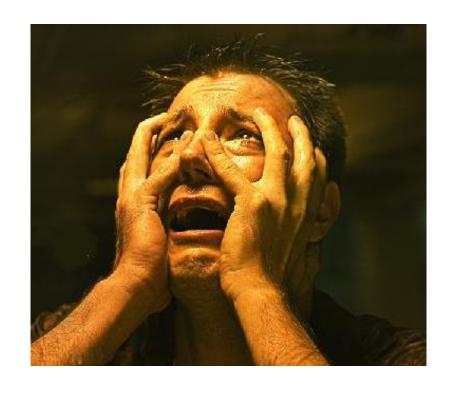
What is The Gospel? Part III – Good News for Today

October 2016

Recap: Fifty Shades of Grace

Our gospel has been clumsy

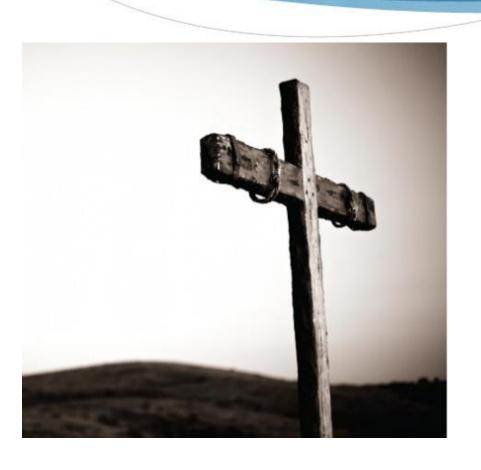
- God seems angry and distant
- ◆ Too black & white & focussed on afterlife
- No place for the Spirit
- Only part of the story



A good summary of the gospel

- 1. God wants us all as children
- 2. We chose independence
- 3. Jesus reconciles us back to the Father
- 4. We can choose to be His child and be filled with His Spirit
- 5. We are empowered by the Spirit to work with God to save the world

What About The Cross?



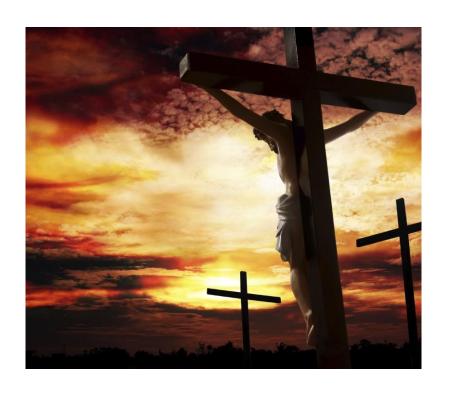
Different views

- Satisfaction/Penal Substitution
- Victory of Christ
- Moral Influence

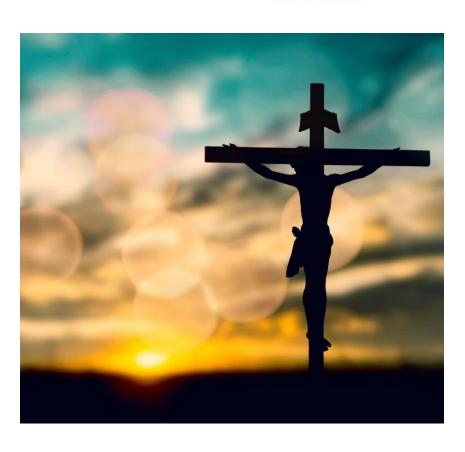
The Cross is Central

- ♦ Anger Romans 1:16-18
- ♦ Separation Isaiah 59:2
- ♦ Sacrifice Hebrews 9:26
- ♦ Substitution Romans 5:8

But not as we might think!



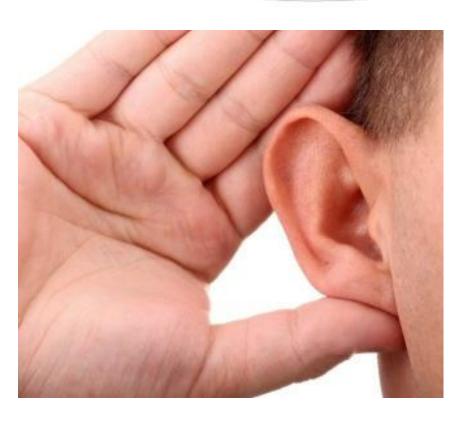
The Glorious Cross!



Father, Son & Spirit working together to:

- Clean up our mess
- ◆ Free us from sin –Colossians 2:15
- ▶ Deliver us from death! Hebrews 2:14-15
- Draw us back to Himself!

How should we preach?



- No dogma
- ▲ Listening!
- Understanding
 - Their story
 - Their hopes
 - ♦ Their fears
 - Their questions

What is the atheist's story?

- Death is the end
- Enjoy it while it lasts!
- Hopes
 - Democracy
 - Science
 - Capitalism



What is the Muslim's story?



- Misunderstood
- Marginalised
- Oppressed by the West
- Hopes
 - World dominion
 - Sharia Law
 - God

There is a lot of fear...



- Disease
- Global warming
- Oppression/Terrorism
- Recession
- Death

So how should we walk?

And what's our message?

Faith, Hope & Love!

- ♦ 1 Corinthians 13:13
- We walk in love
- Are filled with hope
 - For this life
 - For people
 - For the world
- Because of faith

