

PART TWO

Presenting the Gospel

One of the most immediate and intense desires of a new Christian is to share the incredible gift of salvation with someone else. I've seen it time and again—from my own children wanting their brothers and sisters to be saved, to newly saved adults wanting their friends and families to hear the gospel.

Anyone who has been saved can tell someone else what they experienced—even if they don't know the most polished way to present it. And almost anyone will do better than the newly-saved barber I heard about who wanted to share his faith and witness to the lost—who better than to his customers?

The next morning, his first customer came in and asked for a shave. As the barber lathered the shaving cream, he searched for the right words and tried to muster up the courage to speak. Finally, as he stood with his razor poised over the man's throat, he asked, "Are you prepared to meet God?"

You may not always find exactly the right words, but God has given you and every other Christian the task of representing Him to a lost and dying world. He tells us we are His ambassadors, responsible to take the message of salvation to others. In fact, we are standing in the stead of Christ Himself offering them salvation: "Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God" (2 Corinthians 5:20).

Thankfully, the message of the gospel is simple—Jesus died for our sins and offers us the gift of eternal life. But we must take care to present this message clearly and even convincingly, just as a government ambassador does his best to represent his country, presenting the messages with which he has been entrusted.

In this section, we'll look at the simplicity of the gospel, a skeleton outline you can use to present it, and some basic tips for witnessing.

CHAPTER FOUR

Sharing the Gospel

When I was first beginning to preach, I was out doorknocking in Coachella, California. It was over one hundred degrees that afternoon as I went house to house inviting people to our small, new church and looking for opportunities to share the gospel.

I approached a house with an open gate and knocked on the door. No one answered, but I could hear someone in the backyard, and so I decided to walk around to the other side of the house and see if I could talk to someone.

That's when I met Carl. He was standing by his garden eating, of all things, raw onions. And by *eating*, I mean he was biting off whole chunks to chew and swallow—like you might eat an apple.

I introduced myself, and Carl offered me an onion. I wasn't quite sure what to do. I had no desire to eat an onion. But on the other hand, I wanted to gain a hearing with Carl to be able to share the gospel.

I took a bite, and he offered me a seat at his picnic table.

We ate onions and chatted about gardening for a few minutes, and then I explained why I was there and invited him to our church. Soon, I was able to share the gospel with him.

Carl had a lot of questions. He had a church background that likened emotionalism to salvation, and he thought being saved was an experience that happened to a person rather than a decision they made.

But as I shared with Carl the truth from God's Word about Christ's payment for our sins on the cross and what it means to be born again, he bowed his head and trusted Christ as his Saviour right there in his backyard.

A few weeks later, I had the privilege of baptizing Carl at a special baptismal service we held at the community pool. In a short time, Carl became one of our most faithful members and soon began serving in some of the ministry opportunities of our church.

Today, Carl is in Heaven, and I'm so thankful for a hot, muggy afternoon when I got to sit at his picnic table, eat a whole raw onion, and share the gospel.

God has given us a message that is a matter of life and death to share with the world. This message is worth every effort on our part. And it is essential that we both understand it thoroughly and communicate it clearly.

In this chapter, we'll look at this message and one of the most basic presentations for sharing it with others. In our next chapter, we'll look in more depth at additional Scriptures addressing common questions people have.

Understanding the **Gospel**

Before you can clearly share the gospel with someone else, you need to be clear on what the gospel is—and isn't.

Sometimes people see church outreach merely as an opportunity to show kindness to others, such as by doing projects to serve the community. Or they think of it as a way to sway people's political views or change their perceptions of God and the church. Our purpose, however, is to share a singularly focused message—the gospel. Creating opportunities to communicate that message may include showing kindness or serving others. But sharing the gospel itself is sharing the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ.

We see this in 1 Corinthians 15, where Paul clearly defines the gospel:

Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you...For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:—1 Corinthians 15:1, 3–4

That's it! That is the gospel. It is the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ for our sins.

The word *gospel* literally means “good news.” Indeed, Christ's death in our stead, His burial, and His triumphant victory over the grave *is* good news! By placing our trust in Him and in the payment He already paid for our sins, we are reconciled to God and given a home in Heaven.

This is the message we have been commissioned to share with others. It is our job to make our message crystal clear so that there will be no misunderstanding.

How do we do that?

Avoid the **Extremes**

Some people complicate the gospel. They so front-load it with elaborate terminology and extra-biblical requirements that it becomes more of a discussion point among mature Christians than a gospel invitation to the lost. It seems some Christians expect an above-average emotional display combined with deep theological knowledge on the part of the lost man in order to be convinced he is truly converted. In truth, volumes could be written on the doctrine of salvation. But those of us who have shared the gospel with lost people and have seen many come to Christ know that no one understands all the theology behind salvation the day they are saved, nor do they need

to. They simply need to understand that Jesus died and rose for their sins and turn in faith to Christ.

While some soulwinners complicate the message, others make it shallow. They are repetitive and trite in their presentation, making it more of a sales pitch to “pray a prayer” than a call to turn to and believe solely in Christ for salvation.

Before a person can be saved, they must fully understand that they are a sinner in need of a Saviour and turn repentantly to Christ in faith. Acts 20:21 gives us an understanding of how repentance relates to salvation: “Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, *repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.*”

Repentance and faith are two sides of the same coin. *Repentance* means to turn around and go in the opposite direction. A person repents when they realize they are a sinner deserving God’s righteous judgment and that their own works can’t save them. This change of mind about their hope of salvation leads them to faith in Christ. *Faith* is believing that Jesus Christ is the only means by which to be forgiven and to receive eternal life. This brings us again to a summary of the gospel—Jesus died for our sins and offers us salvation.

I don’t usually use the word *repentance* when I’m witnessing to someone, because most unsaved people don’t know what it means. I do, however, make sure I thoroughly explain the truth of turning from self effort and turning to Christ alone for salvation.

Both extremes—the complicated, front-loaded requirements and the shallow, trite presentations—garble the message with which we have been entrusted. We must learn to share the gospel in its pure simplicity while relying on the Holy Spirit to convict hearts and to be a true soulwinner.

Have a *Plan*

That said, there is a core set of verses that clearly give the main truths of the gospel—that we are sinners condemned by God, that Christ died for our sins, and that He offers us the gift of salvation.

My advice to new soulwinners is to learn and memorize these verses and to be prepared to share them with a lost person in any setting—out doorknocking, with a friend over a cup of coffee, etc. My advice to all soulwinners, however, is to let the Holy Spirit lead you in which Scriptures to use as you share the gospel. While having a starting place is important, and the Scriptures I’ll give here are a clear way to share the gospel, realize that the Holy Spirit will sometimes lead you to use other Scriptures. In Chapter 5, we’ll look at additional verses related to salvation as well as common questions and biblical answers. But, for a basic framework, the five main truths and the verses in this section provide a good start for sharing the gospel with someone who is lost.

Giving a Clear *Presentation*

So, how do you present it? In our next chapter, we'll look at sample scenarios and suggested ways to lead into a gospel conversation. But assuming you're at the point where you are ready to present the gospel, what would that look like?

What follows is more or less my basic gospel presentation. You don't need to memorize or use my exact words; I'm simply providing them as a sample of how you can share the gospel, explaining each verse and moving from one Scripture to the next.

I will often ask the person to whom I'm speaking a question to move from small talk to spiritual dialog. Depending on the context of the situation, I may ask, "Has anyone shown you from the Bible how you can know without a doubt you are on your way to Heaven?" or "If you were to die today, do you know if you would go to Heaven or Hell, or do you know?" If they are not sure, I ask if they will allow me a few moments to share what the Bible says. Along the way, I try to remain sensitive to whether or not they are responding to each truth I'm sharing and to allow the Holy Spirit to direct me to other passages or even to continue the conversation at another time.

From here, I'll add comments to you in parentheses, but the rest of the text is how I would explain the basic truths of salvation to whom I'm witnessing.

Understand that God **loves** you.

The first thing that you need to understand is that God loves you. He loves you so much that He gave Himself for you.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.—John 3:16

But that's not all. God not only loves you; He wants you to know that you can have a home in Heaven with Him. Some people think we can only *hope* we will be in Heaven. But God wants us to *know*.

*These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may **know** that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.—1 John 5:13*

(If I'm talking to someone who is of a background, especially Catholic, where they seem hesitant that someone could really know they are going to Heaven, I'll often pause as I come to the word *know* in 1 John 5:13 and ask them to read it, to emphasize its significance to them.)

So, if God loves us and wants us to know we have eternal life, why doesn't everyone automatically go to Heaven? That's what we have to understand next.

Realize your **condition**.

The Bible tells us that we are all lost in sin. Sin is any act contrary to God's laws and commandments, and all of us sin.

Romans 5:12 teaches us that since Adam and Eve, the first man and woman on earth, a sin nature has been present in all people: “Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.” No one had to teach us how to sin; sinning comes naturally to us.

But the Bible teaches that our sin separates us from God.

As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:—Romans 3:10

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;—Romans 3:23

Notice God's *price* for sin.

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.—Romans 6:23

A wage is what you earn for what you do. For instance, a man earns a paycheck for the work he has done. Even so, we deserve eternal death in Hell for the sins we have committed.

Some people believe they can pay the price for sin by doing good works or being involved in religion. This may seem logical, but it's not what the Bible says. In fact, the Bible specifically tells us that we *can't* earn our way to Heaven through good works.

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast.—Ephesians 2:8–9

Believe Christ *died* for you.

Though we deserve eternal death for our sin, Jesus paid our payment when He died for us. We were lost and separated from God, but He loved us. Because He is love, He sent His own Son—Jesus Christ—to die on the cross for our sin. After His death, He rose from the dead three days later.

John 3:16 explains, “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

As Romans 6:23 tells us, Christ now offers us the gift of eternal life: “...the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” This is a gift Christ paid for when He died for our sins. Through His death and resurrection, Jesus became the payment for our sin. Now we do not have to pay for our sin ourselves. By His grace, salvation is provided.

But God commendeth [showed] his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.—Romans 5:8

Confess your *faith* in Christ.

To have a relationship with God and an eternal home in Heaven, we must stop trusting ourselves, our works, or our religion and place our full trust in the Lord Jesus Christ alone for forgiveness of our sin and for eternal life.

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. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.—Romans 10:9–11

To “be saved” speaks of being saved from the penalty of our sins—eternal separation from God in Hell. Although we are sinners separated from God, Jesus Christ—the perfect, sinless, Son of God—provided the way of salvation.

Another way God helps us understand this is in John 3:7, where Jesus said, “Ye must be born again.” To be “born again” is to be born into God’s family—to have a spiritual birth date when we turn from trusting in ourselves or our religion and place our trust in Jesus and His sacrifice for our sins. It is when we in faith call on the Lord to save us.

God Himself promises that if you realize your sinful condition and confess Christ as your Saviour, trusting the payment He made for your sin and turning to Him alone to be your Saviour, He will save you.

For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.—Romans 10:13

Leading to a Decision

I don’t just want to “share” the gospel—as in, get the word out. I want to see the person to whom I am speaking trust Christ as Saviour. So how do I lead this person to a decision?

At this point in our conversation, I am very sensitive to how the person is responding. If he has been attentive and it seems the Holy Spirit is working conviction in his heart, I’ll continue our conversation by inviting him to call on the Lord Jesus by faith for salvation. But if he’s distracted and only giving cursory mental assent to these truths, I’ll likely pull back and give the Holy Spirit time to work in his heart. I’ll still try to keep in contact with him, and I’ll look for another opportunity to witness to him.

If I continue, I’ll likely ask a few summary questions, something like the following:

- Do you believe that you are a sinner, separated from God, and without the ability to save yourself?
- Do you believe that Jesus, God’s Son, shed His blood to pay for your sin?
- Would there be anything that would keep you from turning to and trusting in Jesus Christ as your Saviour today?
- As we saw a moment ago, God promises, “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. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved” (Romans 10:9–10, 13).

- Even as you “confess with your mouth” that you are putting your trust in Christ, it is important that you also “believe in your heart.” It is the faith of your heart that saves you.

Once again, I’m careful to observe how the person is responding and to ask the Holy Spirit to help me discern if He is working in his heart. Typically, I ask, “Would you like to turn to Christ in faith and call on the Lord for salvation now?”

If the person responds with hesitation, I ask what would keep them from turning to Christ. I’m always so aware at this point of my dependence on the Holy Spirit. If they have sincere questions, I want to respond with wisdom. (We’ll look at some of the common questions in Chapter 6.) But if they need to be urged to trust Christ—like someone who is fearful would be urged to jump from a burning building into a rescue net—I want to urge them to not delay a decision.

Often, however, if I’ve gotten to this point in a conversation with someone showing genuine interest and I ask them if they’d like to turn to Christ for salvation now, they often respond with a “yes.” Usually, I will review the gospel presentation in the form of a sample prayer. I might say something like, “That’s wonderful, Joe. Why don’t you call out to Christ right now to save you? Simply confess to Him that you are a sinner and ask Him, as the Son of God, to cleanse you and be your Saviour. Remember, you’re talking to God, not to me. I’ll pray after you.”

Occasionally, if the person seems hesitant to pray because they don’t feel like they know how to pray or what they would say, I lead them in a prayer, allowing them to repeat after me. I always stress that they are praying to God, not to me, and that they need to mean it from their heart. If I lead them in a prayer, I suggest using something like this:

Dear Lord, I know that I am separated from you because of sin. I confess that in my sin I cannot save myself. Right now, I turn to you alone to be my Saviour. I ask you to save me from the penalty of my sin, and I trust you to provide eternal life to me. Amen.

Preparing to **Share** the Gospel

So there it is in a nutshell—a basic gospel presentation. If you have never led someone to Christ, I would encourage you to do three things.

1. Reread this chapter a few times. Don’t memorize the exact words, but get a sense of how you can present the main Scriptures clearly and how you can transition from one to the next.

2. Practice presenting the gospel. With just the main points and the verses (as below) pretend *you* are presenting the gospel to someone else. Practice talking through it aloud several times. You’ll be surprised at how that will help prepare you for an opportunity when you can share your faith.

- **Understand that God loves you.**

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.—John 3:16

- **Realize your condition.**

As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:—Romans 3:10

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;—Romans 3:23

- **Notice God's price for sin.**

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.—Romans 6:23

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast.—Ephesians 2:8–9

- **Believe Christ died for you.**

But God commendeth [showed] his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.—Romans 5:8

- **Confess your faith in Christ.**

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. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.—Romans 10:9–11

For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.—Romans 10:13

3. Be prepared to share the gospel with others. Practice looking up these verses in your New Testament or even mark them so they are easy to find. It's helpful when you are sharing the gospel with someone if you *show* them the verses in the Bible, rather than simply quoting them. This allows the person to see that what you are telling them really does come from God's Word.

Sometimes you may find that sharing your own testimony helps as you share the gospel with someone else.

Of course, people aren't saved simply because you and I *know* the gospel. They are saved when we go to them with the gospel. In speaking of the necessity of bringing the good news of salvation to the lost, Romans 10:17 says, "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." In our next chapter, let's look at some sample conversations for leading into a gospel presentation.

CHAPTER FIVE

Dealing with Common Questions

It's probably every new soulwinner's greatest fear—what if someone asks me a question to which I don't know the answer?

Let me put your fear to rest—it will happen. *And it's okay.* If you wait to witness until you know the Bible answer to every conceivable question, you'll never share the gospel until you get to Heaven. (And the people there already know it.)

It is good, however, to be familiar with answers to some of the most common questions people ask. In this chapter, we'll look at some of these, including a significant look at how we know Jesus is God in the flesh.

If you are a brand new soulwinner, don't feel like you need to memorize all of these verses. Simply read them so you are familiar with them, and as you gain experience, you'll have opportunities to refer back to them.

Common Objections

Below are some commonly asked questions or statements people may ask to someone sharing the gospel with them, as well as some verses that address those areas.

"I have always been a Christian."

No one is born a Christian. Even if a person is born into a home with Christian parents or is baptized into a church as a baby, he or she must make a personal choice to trust Christ to be saved.

Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.—Psalm 51:5

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:—John 1:12

Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.—John 3:3

"I've asked God to forgive me many times."

Another variant of this is, "I pray every day." The soulwinner should explain that praying to receive Christ as Saviour is different than just repeated prayer. It is a prayer of faith, believing in Christ's ability and willingness to save, and is a one-time decision.

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:—John 1:12

For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.—Romans 10:13

Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.—Revelation 3:20

“This is too simple. I need to do something to **earn it.”**

If we could earn salvation, it wouldn't be a gift. If it could be partly our effort and partly God's grace, it wouldn't be grace at all.

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.—Romans 6:23

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.—Ephesians 2:8–9

Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;—Titus 3:5

“I'm **good enough. I'm not a very bad sinner.”**

We might look good compared to another person, but compared to God, we are in desperate need of salvation.

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.—Isaiah 53:6

But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.—Isaiah 64:6

They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.—Romans 3:12

“Doesn't **death end everything? How do we know there is a real Heaven and Hell?”**

Some people believe that death ends everything, but the Bible plainly speaks of our eternal soul and of a real Heaven and Hell.

And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:—Hebrews 9:27

After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.—Matthew 6:9

And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.—Luke 16:22–24

“I don't want to give up my **lifestyle or my friends.”**

There is nothing more valuable than your eternal soul. When you trust Christ as your Saviour, He will give you the grace to desire a new life and be able to live a new life.

For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?—Mark 8:36–37

Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.—John 15:13

For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.—Philippians 2:13

“I think as long as I’m *sincere* in what I believe, that’s all that matters.”

There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.—Proverbs 14:12

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.—John 3:36

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.—John 14:6

Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.—Acts 4:12

He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.—1 John 5:12

The *Deity* of Christ

One of the most important truths for a soulwinner—for every Christian—is to have a firm grasp on the deity of Christ. False teachers and cults all attack the truth that Jesus is, in fact, God.

Why is this so important? Because if Jesus is not God, that would mean He did not live a sinless life, and He could not pay for our sins. Also, if Jesus is not God, His sacrifice could not cover the sins of the entire world. But Scripture specifically states both are true.

And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin.—1 John 3:5

And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.—1 John 2:2

The Bible also tells us that those who teach that Jesus is not God are false teachers.

And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.—1 John 4:3

And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.—1 Timothy 3:16

So, we know it is important that Jesus is God. But how do we know it is true?

His deity is shown through His names.

Throughout the Bible Jesus is called “God.”¹

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.—Isaiah 9:6

And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God.—John 20:28

His deity is shown through His works.

Jesus performed works that only God can do.

- He created the world.

All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.—John 1:3

- He upholds the world.

Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;—Hebrews 1:3

- He forgives sin.

Why doth this man thus speak blasphemies? who can forgive sins but God only? And immediately when Jesus perceived in his spirit that they so reasoned within themselves, he said unto them, Why reason ye these things in your hearts? Whether is it easier to say to the sick of the palsy, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and take up thy bed, and walk? But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (he saith to the sick of the palsy,) I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house.—Mark 2:7–11

- He gives eternal life.

As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.—John 17:2

His deity is shown through worship.

The Bible tells us plainly that we are to worship God only (Luke 4:8), yet, throughout the Gospels, we see many people worship Jesus. He never stopped a single one of them.

Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.—Matthew 2:2

Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying, Of a truth thou art the Son of God.—Matthew 14:33

And he said, Lord, I believe. And he worshipped him.—John 9:38

We even see that God the Father commands the angels to worship Him.

And again, when he bringeth in the firstbegotten into the world, he saith, And let all the angels of God worship him.—Hebrews 1:6

His deity is shown through His attributes.

Jesus exhibits characteristics that belong to God alone. Notice just a few of these qualities:

- Omnipotence

And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.—Matthew 28:18

- Omniscience

Now are we sure that thou knowest all things, and needest not that any man should ask thee: by this we believe that thou camest forth from God.—John 16:30

From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day.—Matthew 16:21

- Omnipresence

...and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.—Matthew 28:20

- Eternality

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.—John 1:1

- Immutability

Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.—Hebrews 13:8

His deity is shown through His resurrection.

The most spectacular evidence of Jesus' deity was His bodily resurrection from the dead. Indeed, the resurrection of Jesus Christ is, as one man put it, "the crowning proof of Christianity."²

Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them. And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre. And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus. And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments: And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living

among the dead? He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee, Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.—Luke 24:1–7

Jesus didn't rise from the dead secretly. Scripture records over ten different recorded appearances of Jesus after His resurrection.³

Only God could raise Himself from the dead. Yes, we can be sure that Jesus is God, that His offer of salvation is good, and that He will save all who put their trust in Him.

Common Questions, Real Answers

In these past chapters, I've mentioned a few times that what I've given you is a basic gospel presentation and answers to common questions. I'd like to encourage you to not stop here but to keep growing as a soulwinner and in your personal Bible knowledge. You may not always have the answer to someone's question, and it's fine to say, "That's a great question; let's talk again when I can give you an answer from the Bible"—and then get help from someone more experienced.

So use these chapters as your starting place, and continue growing and learning. In fact, one of the best ways to grow in your ability to clearly communicate the gospel is to keep sharing it. Make it your goal that you will share the gospel so often that your ability to share it clearly will develop as you rely on the Holy Spirit for guidance.

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- ¹. Additional references include Hebrews 1:8; 1 Timothy 3:16; Titus 2:13; Romans 9:3–5; 1 John 3:16, 5:20; Revelation 1:8, 21:6–7; Colossians 2:9.
 - ². Henry M. Morris, *Many Infallible Proofs: Evidences for the Christian Faith* (New Leaf Publishing Group, 1974), 97.
 - ³. See John 20:11–18; Matthew 28:1–10; 1 Corinthians 15:5; Luke 24:13–35; John 20:19–24, 26–28, 21:1–23; 1 Corinthians 15:6–6; Acts 1:3–10, 9:3–9.