



river west church

The Gospel Applied
Summer 2011

It's All About the Gospel

If you have been around River West Church at all, you've probably noticed that we constantly talk about the Gospel. This is not accidental. We believe that the good news (i.e. Gospel) about Jesus is not only the main message of the Bible but also the most important truth for all of life.

In his first letter to the Corinthians, the Apostle Paul spoke of the Gospel "as of first importance" (1 Cor. 15:3). The Gospel is the first and most important truth of the Christian faith. The Gospel is central. The Gospel is powerful (Rom. 1:16)! If you learn and treasure the truth of the Gospel it will begin to transform every aspect of your life.

The Power of the Gospel in the Life of a Christian

We want the good news of Jesus to become even more influential in your life, because we are convinced that it is not merely the message that begins your Christian journey. A person doesn't move on from the "milk" of the Gospel to the "meat" of deeper truths. Rather, we move on from the "milk" of the Gospel to the "meat" of the Gospel. What does this mean? It means that the Gospel is both simple and profound. It means that a basic understanding of the good news about the life, death and resurrection of Jesus is sufficient for true repentance and saving faith. And it means that an ever increasing understanding and application of the Gospel is essential for continued growth and change in the Christian life. As Paul said it, we are to "receive" the Gospel, "stand" in the Gospel and "hold fast" to the Gospel (1 Cor. 15:1&2).

Our Series: "The Gospel Applied"

A wise theologian once said that most of our problems are really a failure to believe and apply the Gospel. This is a big statement, but at its core it simply means this: what you do is always a reflection of what you believe. Your actions, thoughts, and attitudes flow directly from what you really believe (not what you say you believe).

Over the next several months, we are going to explore this connection. Our series is called "The Gospel Applied." We hope to discover together the deep riches and the amazing power of the Gospel to transform even the most practical aspects of your everyday life. How does the truth of the Gospel impact your friendships...your marriage...your wallet...your work...your parenting...your suffering? Our prayer for you in the coming weeks is that God, by His Holy Spirit, will draw you deeper into the riches of Jesus Christ to change you for His glory.