



STUDY GUIDE

2024



*What is
Salvation?*



WHAT IS SALVATION?

A STUDY

on Soteriology

2024

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Beijing, China

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STUDY GUIDE

January 7



ACTS 26:12-29

What is Salvation?



Gospel Call

Acts 26:12-29

12 “In this connection I journeyed to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests. 13 At midday, O king, I saw on the way a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, that shone around me and those who journeyed with me. 14 And when we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, ‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.’ 15 And I said, ‘Who are you, Lord?’ And the Lord said, ‘I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. 16 But rise and stand upon your feet, for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you as a servant and witness to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you, 17 delivering you from your people and from the Gentiles—to whom I am sending you 18 to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.’

19 “Therefore, O King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, 20 but declared first to those in Damascus, then in Jerusalem and throughout all the region of Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, performing deeds in keeping with their repentance. 21 For this reason the Jews seized me in the temple and tried to kill me. 22 To this day I have had the help that comes from God, and so I stand here testifying both to small and great, saying nothing but what the prophets and Moses said would come to pass: 23 that the Christ must suffer and that, by being the first to rise from the dead, he would proclaim light both to our people and to the Gentiles.”

24 And as he was saying these things in his defense, Festus said with a loud voice, “Paul, you are out of your mind; your great learning is driving you out of your mind.” 25 But Paul said, “I am not out of my mind, most excellent Festus, but I am speaking true and rational words. 26 For the king knows about these things, and to him I speak boldly. For I am persuaded that none of these things has escaped his notice, for this has not been done in a corner. 27 King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know that you believe.” 28 And Agrippa said to Paul, “In a short time would you persuade me to be a Christian?” 29 And Paul said, “Whether short or long, I would to God that not only you but also all who hear me this day might become such as I am—except for these chains.

Gospel Call

Last year we had a series of sermon on Theology. This year we want to continue that series but with a focused look at Salvation, or what theologians call, soteriology. This Sunday we begin the New Year by learning about the Gospel Call. As Paul Reminds us...

Romans 10:14

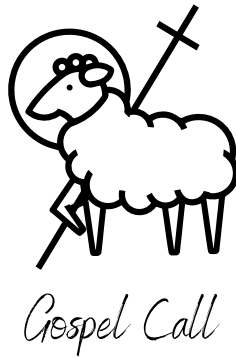
"How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching?"

But what is it we are to preach and what is it we are to believe in and how exactly are we to call on Him? The Gospel Call gives answers to these questions. It's one of the most important truths we will ever know...for to get the Gospel Call wrong has eternal consequences.

Hearing and Preaching the Gospel with You,

Pastor TJ

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## Discussion Questions

**Ice Breaker:**

**Share with the group when you first heard the gospel call.**

**1. Do you believe the following definition is an accurate explanation of the Gospel Call? Explain.**

*The gospel call is a clear and patient explanation of the facts concerning salvation in Jesus Christ with an invitation to all people to repent of their sins and in faith turn to and live for Jesus, in order that they may receive forgiveness of sins and eternal life.*

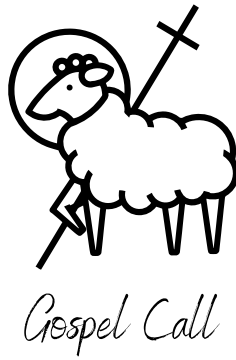
**2. Why do you think God made it so that the gospel had to be preached by humans rather than direct revelation?**

**3. Why is it important for all Christians to have an accurate understanding of the Gospel Call?**

**4. Read Acts 26:25. What advice do you have to others to ensure that the Gospel Presentation is “true and rational”?**

**5. Read Acts 26:3, 28. Share with the group ways in which we can patiently share the gospel.**

**6. What do you think is most difficult to believe concerning the gospel? (for example, that they are a sinner, that sin requires death, that God will punish sin, that Jesus really rose from the dead, that Jesus’ death could**



## Discussion Questions

7. According to the sermon what are the four central truths that must be clearly communicated when giving a gospel presentation? Would you add to or take away from this list? Explain.
8. Why do you think many who share the gospel with others leave out the invitation to respond to the gospel?
9. If the gospel is for all peoples, what are some ways the church can be involved in making sure the gospel is preached to all peoples?
10. What is the difference between worldly guilt over sin (and the punishment it might bring) and Godly grief over sinning against Jesus who loves us and has died for us.
11. What does it mean to turn to (live for) Jesus? (This is sometimes referred to Lordship Salvation)
12. What are some creative ways to have Gospel Conversations in the workplace today?



## Going Deeper

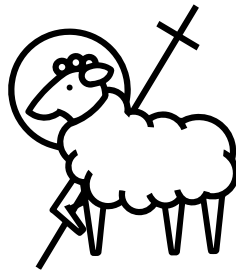
**13. What role does the Spirit play in the Gospel Call? What is the Spirit's role in convicting individuals and enabling their response to the call? See: John 6:44, John 16:8-10, Acts 16:14**

**14. According to scripture, what do you believe about general and effectual calling?**

**15. In what ways does the Gospel Call intersect with different views on predestination and free will?**

**16. What happens to those who never hear the Gospel call?**

**17. Explore the tension between divine sovereignty and human responsibility in the context of Gospel Call.**



*Gospel Call*

## Prayer & Praise

End your time together by reflecting on the goodness of God and praying for one another.

### Prayer Requests

### Praise Reports