Evangelign

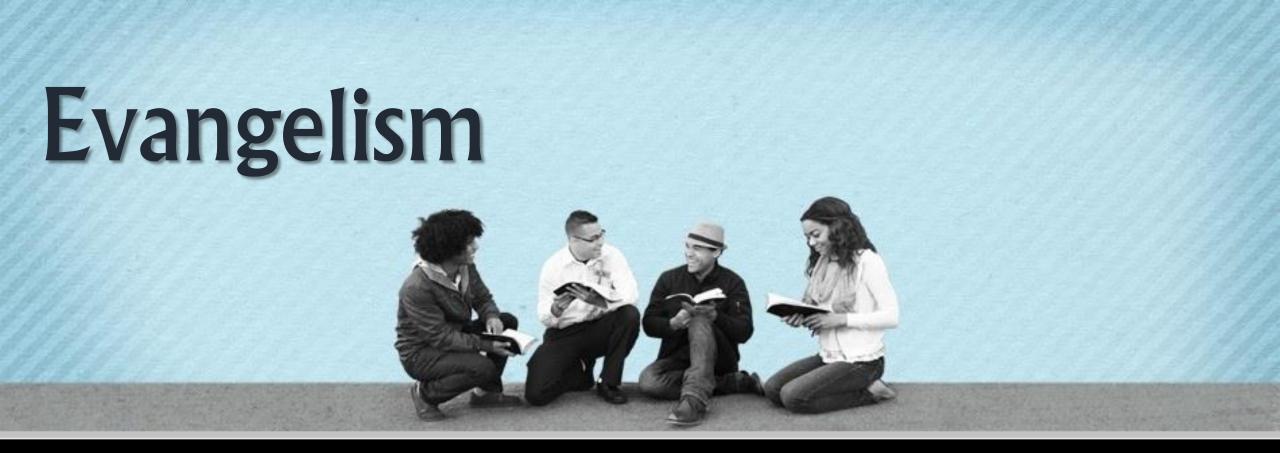
Week 1: The Goal & God Jan 8th Worship Center, 10:45am



Evangelism is verbally telling the message of <u>sin & salvation</u>.

Evangelism

Evangelism is <u>explaining</u> to someone the truth about <u>eternity.</u>



Evangelism is <u>communicating</u> the <u>core</u> message of gospel to someone who doesn't already understand or believe it.

Evangelism

Evangelism is *faithfully* informing a *friend* about spiritual realities in a biblically accurate way.

Evangelism is explaining a sufficient amount of the truth about the bad news of sin and the good news of salvation that someone may actually be able to understand and believe the gospel message for the first time.

Evangelism means; that we *faithfully* & *regularly* confidently & unapologetically yet lovingly & graciously explain the truth about the *core message* of the *gospel*, biblically & systematically.

The goal of evangelism is to share the truth in such a way that someone may actually have *saving faith* and as a result be saved from their sins!



If *saving faith* is the goal...then it is very important to know what saving faith is!



Saving faith is: **Believing what Jesus did on the** cross truly accomplished what God said it did...

...and that: God will <u>actually</u> do what he says he will do with those who believe...and those who don't.

...and that: There is no way for me or you to achieve what God says the cross accomplished on our own.

The theme of the Bible in one sentence...

Man must <u>believe</u> what God has said.

Therefore the aim of humanity should be to...

Hear, understand & believe what God has said.



Our job in evangelism is to tell others what it is that God has said.



Over the next few weeks we want to discuss, *what parts* or *how much* of what God has said do people need to have *heard*, *understood* and *believed*.

A true presentation of the gospel includes:

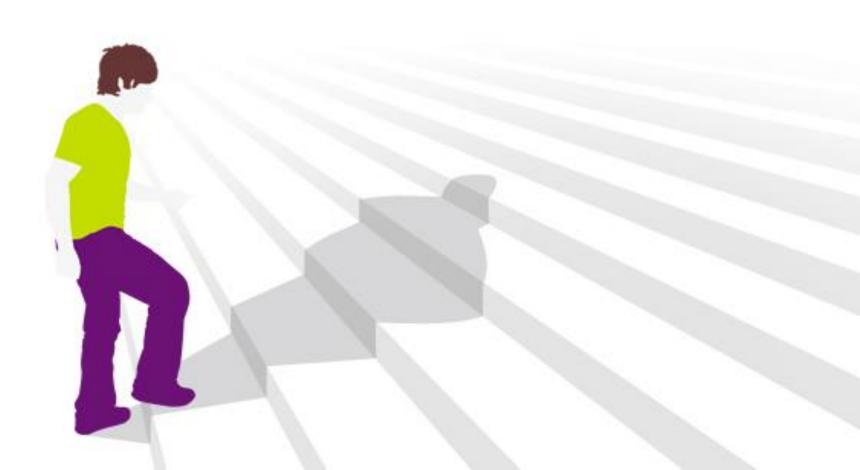


Today we want to unpack the first part, God.

The first part of the believing process is some **understanding of the true God** of the Bible.



"We can never know who or what we are till we know at least something of what God is." A.W Tozer



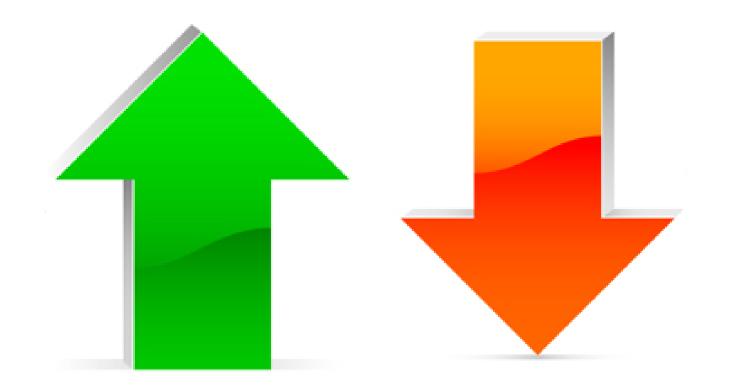
We must ask; How much or what parts about God and his character & nature must someone understand & believe in order to be able to understand the message of **sin-salvation** & be saved?



All of God's attributes & actions etc. are *equally glorious*, *equally beautiful* and *very important*...

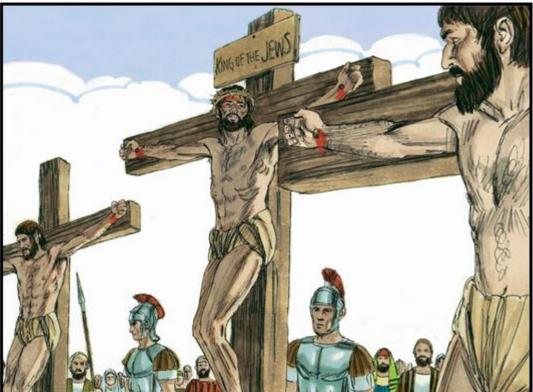
....but not all are necessary to be known, understood and believed in order to be saved!

There are facets of God's character & nature that play a <u>major role</u> in the sin-salvation narrative and others that play a <u>minor role</u>.

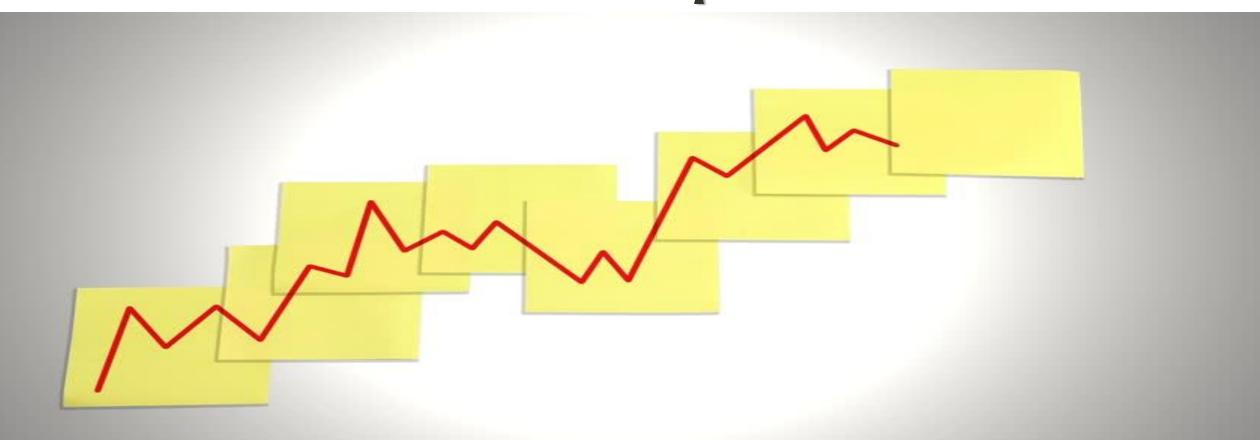


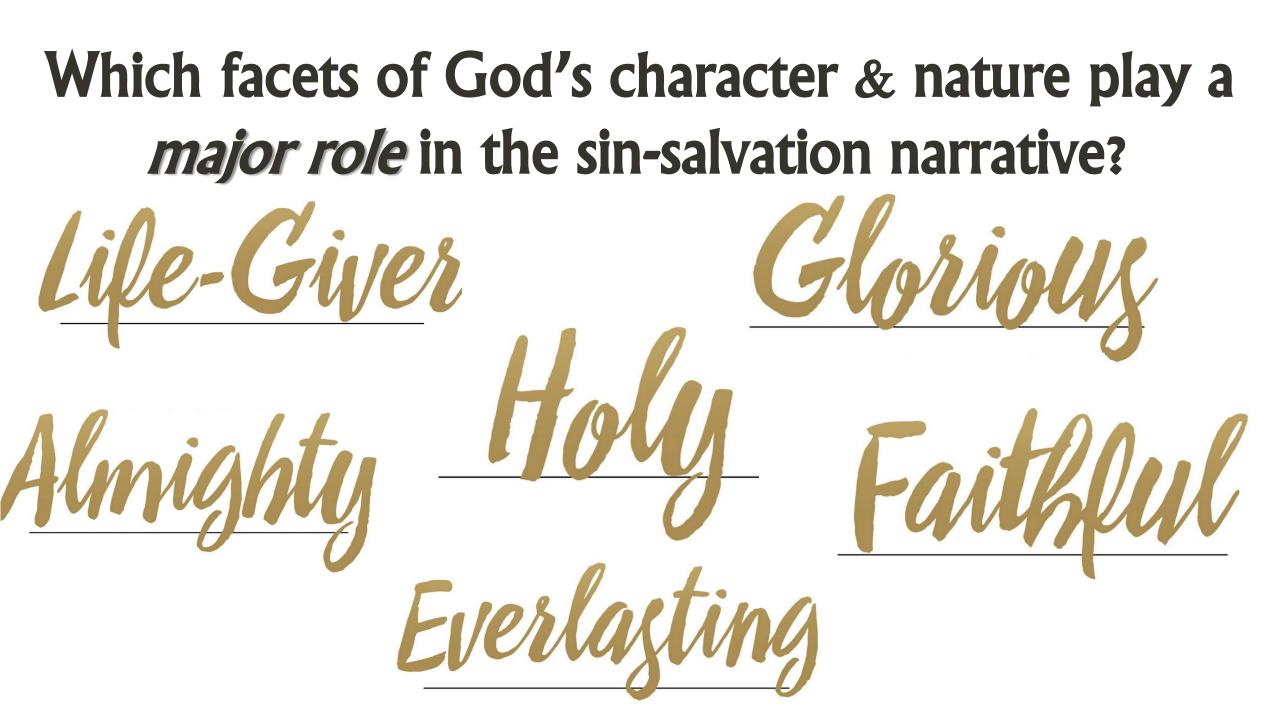
Our job in evangelism is to tell about the *attributes* and *accounts* of God that play a significant role in the understanding of the sin-salvation narrative.





As a new believer is discipled and they mature in their understanding of the Bible & God... their knowledge & appreciation of the whole array of the nature of God will expand and enhance.





GOD: **As the Author GOD** must be understood as the

author of life and the *almighty* that holds all things together. He is our origin, our creator and our daily sustainer.

GOD: As the Author

For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. Colossians 1:16-17

GOD: As the Authority **GOD** must be understood as our

- ruling *authority* and arbiter. He is
- the one to whom we owe our all
 - and we are each <u>accountable</u>

to him!

GOD: As the Authority

Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account. Hebrews 4:13

GOD: As the Righteous GOD must be understood as *righteous* and holy (morally perfect). God is the greatest & ultimate good in the universe, and is necessarily the *absolute* standard of what is good, holy and right.

GOD: As the Righteous

He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he. **Deuteronomy 32:4**

As for God, his way is perfect: The LORD's word is flawless... 2 Samuel 22:31

G D: As the Requirement GOD must be understood as the *requirement*, which is perfection from us. As the author & authority he has the ability & right to demand whatever he finds *acceptable*.

G D: As the Requirement

But just as He who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do, for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy." Since you call on a Father who judges each man's work impartially, live your lives in reverent fear during your temporary stay on earth... 1 Peter 1:16

Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. Hebrews 12:14

G O D: As the Requirement

They show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts sometimes accusing them and at other times even defending them... But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify... for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Romans 2:15, 3:21, 23

GOD: As the Judge GOD must be understood as the judge of all humanity. God has the right to rule, judge, condemn and punish. God says he hates sin and will *always* punish sin with death.

GOD: As the Judge

There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the one who is able to save and destroy. For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil. James 4:12, Ecclesiastes 12:14

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad. 2 Corinthians 5:10

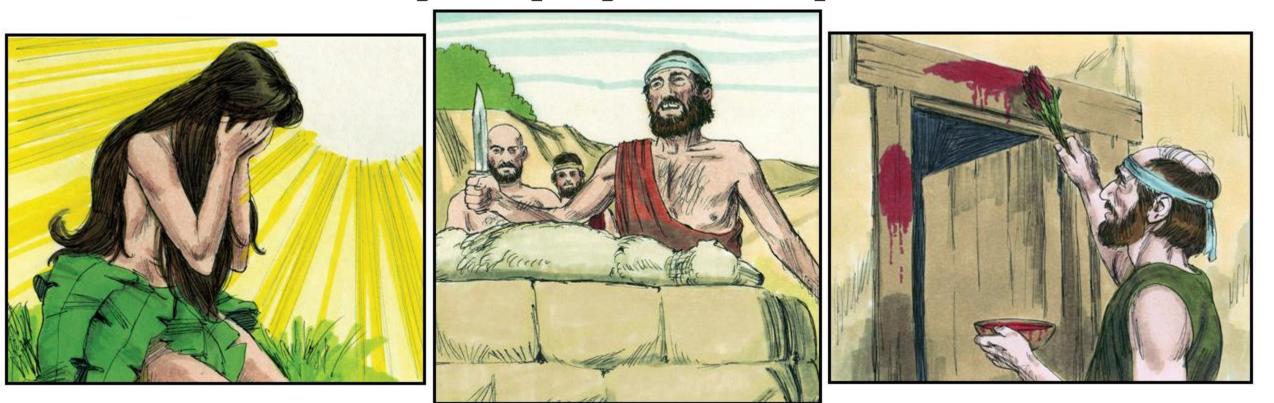
GOD: As the Justifier GOD must be understood as the one and only possible *justifier* of all humanity. God has the right to determine & dictate the way to be acquitted of wrong & avoid punishment.

GOD: As the Justifier

This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe... for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus...God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement... he did it to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.

Romans 3:22-23, 25-26

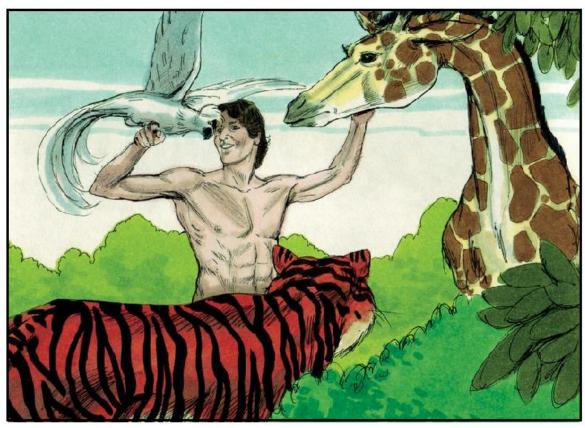
Our job in evangelism is to <u>explain</u> and show these essential attributes of God in the scriptures. Our job is to <u>discover</u> the accounts that clearly and directly display these specific traits.



More than likely it will take covering a few different accounts to adequately explain each important aspect of God-Law-Gospel. But one account seems to encapsulate all the important facets of God that we just went over.

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness..." God created man in His own image, in the image of God **He created him**; male and female **He created them**. Genesis 1:1, 26-27

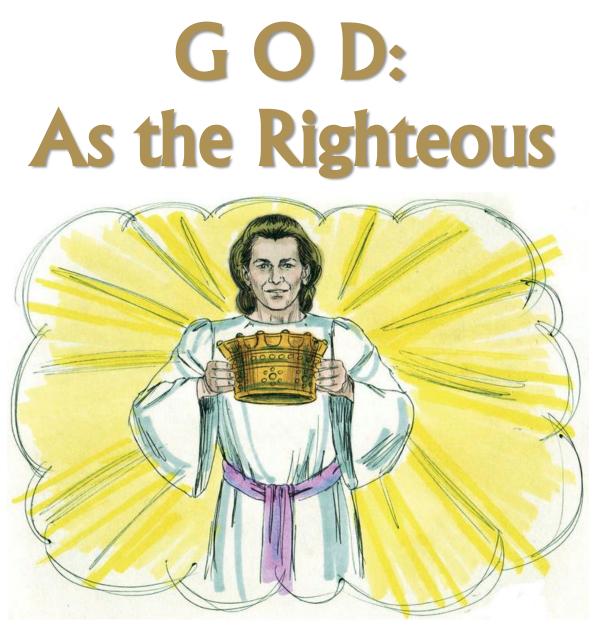
G O D: As the Author



God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth." The LORD God commanded the man, saying, "From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die." Genesis 1:28, 2:16-17

GOD: As the Authority

God saw all that he had made, and it was very good (7x). Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done. Genesis 1:31, 2:3



Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness..." God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Genesis 1:1, 26-27

GOD: As the Requirement

Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves. Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God...and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. Genesis 3:7-8

GOD: As the Requirement

So the LORD God said... (To the woman) "Because you have done this... I will make your pains in childbearing very severe..." (To the man) "By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return..." Genesis 3:14, 16, 19

G O D: As the Judge

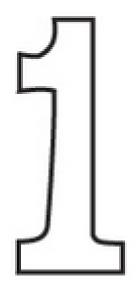


"....your offspring.... he (A Deliverer) will crush your (Satan's) head, and you will strike his (Deliverer's) heel." ... The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them. Genesis 3:15, 21

G O D: As the Justifier







There are *certain truths* that an unbeliever must hear, understand and believe about God-Man-Sin-Christ-Salvation etc. in order to be able to have saving faith.



There are many truths that the Bible teaches about **God**-**Sin-Man-Christ-Salvation** etc. but not all of those truths are **equally significant** in the sin-salvation narrative.



Our job is to be as thorough and faithful as possible to the Truth, *without adding unnecessary* parts *or removing critical* parts.

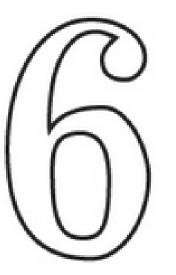


If we are *missing important elements*

in our sharing of the sin-salvation narrative...there may not be enough truth present for someone to understand & believe.



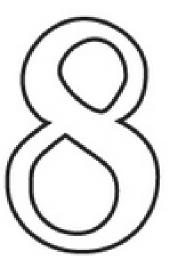
God can and will use other people & other occasions to water the seeds of truth...but **our responsibility is to be good stewards** of the true gospel message and not rely on others completing the work.



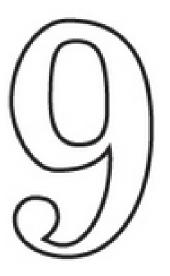
Our job is to **pin point the accounts in scripture** that best illustrate/display the truths critical to the sin-salvation narrative... and to **know those truths and accounts well**!



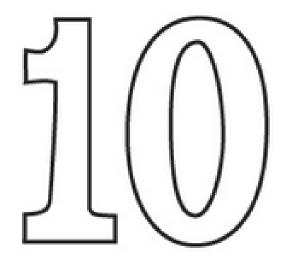
Our job is to *pin point occasions in our friends lives* that best provide opportunities to pound home the significant truths in a biblically accurate & orderly way. It may mean 4-6 weeks of *formal teaching*, it may mean 4-6 months of *informal sharing*.



It appears that **beginning with the significant truths about God** is the best place to start in the Sin-Salvation narrative.



It appears that the *most significant truths* that someone *must know about God* in order to understand the message of salvation is God as Author, Authority, Righteous, Requirement, Judge & Justifier.



The goal in evangelism is to **start sharing those truths anytime they come up** in any account in scripture or in real life situations. One of the best accounts, which illustrates all of them is the Creation-Fall account.

Next week want to unpack the second part, Law.