

5. It is important to know the Bible does not make a distinction between _____ faith and heart faith.
 - a. In New Testament times, the _____ of a person was considered to be a part of the heart, and the heart was the place in which faith occurred. Romans 10:10a – *For with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness.*
 - b. Obviously, someone can intellectually know the _____ of the gospel without personally relying on Christ's finished work for salvation. In that case, such a person is not saved.
 - 1) However, we should be careful to _____ measure a person's sincerity by using terms such as head faith, heart faith, true faith or saving faith.
 - 2) Some of these terms have been added to recent Bible translations including the NLT, WNT, ABPE and CEV, but these qualifiers are not found in the original manuscripts of Scripture and can produce confusion and even paralyzing _____.
 - c. Biblically, a person either believes or does not believe. Belief in the gospel is personal reliance on Jesus Christ, on who He is and what He did to save you. If you have believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, you are _____, and if not, you are still dead in your sins.
 - 1) John 8:24 – *Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am He, you will _____ in your sins.*
 - 2) 1 John 5:13 – *These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may _____ that you have eternal life.*

F. Why it's important to present a clear gospel

1. Most believers nod in agreement when they hear the _____ gospel, but when you point out unclear gospel presentations, you may get many different responses, including shock, sadness, guilt, or even denial of the truth of the gospel.
2. The intent of this section is not to criticize but rather to challenge our thinking. This section is presented with the confidence that as Christians, we all want to be clear and _____ with the most important message on earth.
3. Since many of us were saved despite _____ gospel presentations, we might be tempted to think accuracy is not that important and that the unclear presentations we grew up with are acceptable, even though they are not entirely accurate.
4. However, we should strive to present the gospel message as _____ as possible.
 - a. Referring to clarity, in 1 Corinthians 14:7-8 Paul said, "*Yet even lifeless things, either flute or harp, in producing a sound, if they do not produce a distinction in the tones, how will it be _____ what is played on the flute or on the harp? For if the bugle produces an indistinct sound, who will prepare himself for battle?*"
 - b. Similarly, in Ephesians 6:19-20 Paul said, "*And pray on my behalf, that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in proclaiming it I may speak _____, as I ought to speak.*"

- c. In Acts 18:25-26 Priscilla and Aquila helped Apollos to be more accurate – *This man had been instructed in the way of the Lord; ...he was speaking and teaching accurately the things concerning Jesus... But when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God _____ accurately.*
5. The Scriptures are bold in stating what the gospel is and what it is not. Here are a few examples of this fact.

SAVED BY:	NOT SAVED BY:
Ephesians 2:8-9	
<i>For by grace you have been saved through faith</i>	<i>and that not of yourselves</i>
<i>it is the gift of God</i>	<i>not as a result of works, so that no one may boast</i>
Acts 13:39	
<i>and through Him everyone who believes is freed from all things</i>	<i>from which you could not be freed through the Law of Moses.</i>
Titus 3:5	
<i>He saved us</i>	<i>not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness</i>
<i>but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit</i>	
2 Timothy 1:9	
<i>He has saved us and called us with a holy calling</i>	<i>not because of our own works</i>
<i>but by His own purpose and by the grace He granted us in Christ Jesus before time eternal</i>	
Galatians 2:16	
	<i>Nevertheless, knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the Law</i>
<i>but through faith in Christ Jesus, even we have believed in Christ Jesus</i>	
<i>so that we may be justified by faith in Christ</i>	<i>and not by the works of the Law</i>
	<i>since by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified.</i>

G. Unclear Gospel Presentations

1. Confusion: Believe and do good works

- a. Almost all _____ gospels require the sinner to do some work for salvation, but the gospel is not faith in Christ plus good works.
- b. The Bible teaches that salvation is the work of God. Revelation 7:10 – *And they cry out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation [belongs] to our _____ who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb."* Psalm 3:8, Jonah 2:9b
- c. We can add nothing to Christ's _____ on the cross. He achieved complete and full salvation for all mankind, without the help of anyone. By faith we rely on what He already accomplished. Hebrews 1:3, 10:12
- d. Ephesians 2:8-9 – *For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not _____, lest anyone should boast.*
- e. Titus 3:5 – *Not _____ of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy, He saved us through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit.*

2. Confusion: Believe and keep the Ten Commandments

- a. Confusion about keeping the Ten Commandments to earn God's acceptance is still prevalent in our world today. The Bible speaks plainly against this _____ gospel.
- b. Galatians 2:16 – *Knowing that a man is not justified by the _____ of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus so that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law, no flesh shall be justified.*
- c. Acts 13:39 – *Through Him, everyone who believes is justified from everything you could not be justified from by the _____ of Moses.*
- d. Romans 3:20 – *Therefore, no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, through the law, we become conscious of _____.*
- e. Galatians 3:11 – *Clearly no one is justified before God by the law because "The righteous will live by _____."*
- f. We remember from the "Law school" section of this curriculum that the Law was given to be our school master to teach us to recognize our _____ for salvation, but it was never given to save us. Only Jesus Christ can save.

3. Confusion: Believe and be baptized

- a. Water baptism is a public testimony of salvation for people who _____ believed in the work of Jesus Christ on the cross, but it is not a requirement or the means of salvation for the unsaved. Acts 8:26-40, 10:43-48
- b. If water baptism was required for salvation, Paul made a major blunder when in 1 Corinthians 1:17 he said, *"For Christ did not send me to _____, but to preach the gospel, not in cleverness of speech, so that the cross of Christ would not be made void."*

- c. The thief on the cross was unquestionably saved without getting baptized in water, which is another confirmation that the _____ of baptism is not necessary for salvation. Luke 23:42-43

4. **Confusion: Believe and be circumcised**

- a. Although this false gospel is not common today, it was a problem in the early church when the majority of Christians were still _____. Many of these Jewish believers felt that in order for Gentiles to be saved, they also needed to be circumcised.
- b. Acts 15:1 – *Certain people came down from Judea to Antioch and were teaching the believers: “Unless you are circumcised, according to the custom taught by _____, you cannot be saved.”*
- c. Galatians 5:2-3 – *Behold I, Paul, say to you that if you receive circumcision, Christ will be of no benefit to you. And I testify again to every man who receives circumcision, that he is under obligation to keep the whole _____.*
- d. God made it clear that if a person was relying on circumcision to be saved, he would need to keep the _____ Law, not just the circumcision requirements. Since no one has ever been able to keep the entire Law, any effort to gain eternal life through circumcision falls miserably short.
- e. Circumcision was a _____ of the Abrahamic Covenant which was an agreement between God and Abraham dating to the time when Israel first became a nation. All Israelite boys were required to be circumcised eight days after birth. This ritual, however, did not save anyone from their sins. Genesis 17:9-14

5. **Confusion: Believe and confess your sins**

- a. Confession of sins is not a requirement for salvation. However, while confession of sin is not a requirement for salvation, all people must understand they are _____ in need of the Savior. Recognizing you are a sinner prior to salvation is not the same as confessing your individual sins.
 - 1) First of all, no one can possibly remember _____ sin he or she has ever committed. In fact, most of us have a hard time remembering what we had for supper last night!
 - 2) Secondly, trying to confess all your sins would cause distressing soul searching and doubt. If you think you have to confess all your sins in order to be saved, you will _____ be secure in your salvation, knowing you have forgotten many of your sins.
- b. Unbelievers will be condemned to the Lake of Fire because they did not believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, not because they failed to confess their sins. John 3:18 says, *“He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not _____ in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”*
- c. Confession of sin is for the saved person, one who is already a child of God. Knowingly committing a sin causes the child of God to lose fellowship with God. In such occasions, believers are to confess their sins in order to _____ their fellowship with God.