

The Gospel Is Essential For You

Intro: We live in a “whatever is right for me” culture. This may be true in some ways. We may look for careers that best suit us or we might prefer fish over steak. Getting right with God through Jesus Christ is not an option. It is represented in the Bible as available and essential for all of humanity. If you are human, you are in one of the groups below and are in need of Jesus’ work accomplished on the cross.

1. Are you blessed with possessions or are you lacking?
 - A. Are you lacking? - Luke 4:18
 1. A beggar named Lazarus and a widow - Luke 16:22; 21:1-4
 2. People in deep poverty showing “riches” - 2 Corinthians 8:1-3
 3. The poor can really be rich - James 2:5
 - B. Are you blessed with “stuff”? See Luke 18:18-30
 1. Wealth is not bad, but our attitude toward it defines us.
 2. The young needed to know there are better riches. Luke 18:22; 29-30
2. Are you unrighteous or righteous?
 - A. The Unrighteous
 1. A wild living son - Luke 15
 2. Misguided people - Acts 9:1-2; 14:8-18
 - B. The Righteous or, in one case, a “devout man who feared God”. Acts 10
 - C. Why are they equally in need? For the same reason as seen in Rom.3:21-23
3. Are you an “intellectual giant” or a “simple working person”?
 - A. There were the “thinkers” of ancient Greece. Acts 17:16-34
 1. They loved intellectual expansion. 17:21
 2. But they didn’t like being “pinned down”. 17:30-2
 3. Still, they were exhorted to change. 17:30-31
 - B. The “Working Stiff”
 1. A Corrections Officer - Acts 16:25-34
 2. He was also informed of his need - Acts 16:30-31

Conclusion: In which group do you fit? Maybe you can think of a slot that better describes you. I’m not sure it matters all that much. The same God made us all and he made us to be able to recognize our need from many different vantage points. Where ever you are, God waits for you with his love.