

The Gospel of Wholeness

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I. Introduction

A. The Job Description of the Church (Proclaiming the Gospel)

Matt.28:19 - 20

B. Invitation into_____.

C. Becoming _____.

D. Jesus: Prince and Savior (Acts 5:31)

E. The goal of the Christian life is NOT _____; rather it is:

_____ with Christ

_____ upon Christ

_____ to Christ.

II. The State of the Church (Full Gospel vs. Half Gospel)

A. Equipped with _____.

“

B. Confusion and Abdication _____.

C. Illustration: What must I do to be saved.....

What must I do to be sanctified.....

D. Wrong Theology

E. Confusion over _____ of Change vs
_____ of Change

F. Romans 15:14 - Competent to _____.

III. State of the World (Gospel Starved)

IV. Returning to the Gospel

A. _____ with Christ AND _____ to Christ

V. The Gospel of Wholeness - Good News about Sanctification

A. Theologically Sound

B. Biblically Integrated

C. Reproducible

D. Effective

Genesis 3:6-13

When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. 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 as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"

He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."

And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?"

The man said, "The woman you put here with me--she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it."

KEY _____

A. _____ is the issue that must be addressed in both Salvation and Sanctification.

1. If the problem is not totally a result of physiology and not totally the result of the demonic, then it has to be an issue of sin.
2. Our own sins or the sins that are committed against us.

B. When sin entered the world, it resulted in a fracturing of relationship in 3 spheres.

1. With GOD

Before -

After-

2. With MAN (OTHERS)

Before-

After-

3. With Self

Before-

After-

C. The Gospel of Christ is good news because it addresses the brokenness in all three areas.

D. The poverty of a secular approach in counseling is that it fails to address the core Problem of SIN.

1. As a result, the results are either:
 - a. Temporary
 - b. External

Jeremiah 2:13

"My people have committed two sins:

They have forsaken me, the spring of living water,

and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water."

KEY _____

A. Only God can say "I Am that I Am"

B. We must say "I am because He is"

C. The Broken Cisterns are our _____ of _____ .

1. They are our Counterfeit means of attempting to find what only God can give. (Peace, Hope, Purpose, Identity, Value, Acceptance, Worth)

2. Our Broken Cisterns are _____ that will NEVER provide what only God can give. **NO MATTER HOW DEEP OR HOW MANY WE DIG.**

D. Some popular "Empty Wells".

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____

E. Our job is to help people _____ & _____ their “empty wells”.

1. We must be careful to not inadvertently help others to build better empty wells.
 - a. Helping a person who smothers their friends learn how to limit their phone calls rather than the brokenness exhibited by attempting to find worth from our relationship with others.
 - b. The Man who’s wife and children are mad because he is always at work is helped by suggestions of reasonable work schedules rather than addressing his attempt to find his identity from his work.
2. Often the “Empty Well” is neither good nor bad in and of itself.... It is our attempt to find “Living Water” in that “Empty Well” that is the sin.

F. We are called to “practice the Presence of God” but because of the fall, we no longer practice the presence of the Creator but instead we practice the presence of the created.

G. Emotional Healing and Wholeness is achieved by a restoration of our right relationship with God. It will involve our recognition of the counterfeit ways we have tried to find what only God can supply. All too often, even the process of emotional healing becomes the new “empty well” and we place our hope, peace and even our identity in the “pursuit of wholeness” rather than our “relationship with the Holy One”. (John 15)

1. Wholeness involves our recognition of the counterfeit ways we have tried to attain what only God can supply.
2. Too often, even the process of emotional healing becomes the new “empty well” because we place our hope, peace—even our identities—in the “pursuit of wholeness” rather than our “relationship with the Holy One.” (John 15)

Galatians 6:7-9

“Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.”

KEY _____

- A. The reason we must address the root issue of sin is that the sin in our lives will ALWAYS result in bad fruit.
1. Often times the _____ is not the root issue but rather simply the identification of the bad fruit that the sin is producing.
 2. Many people sweep sin “under the carpet”. Both their own sin as well as sin committed against them. It is only after they begin to trip repeatedly over the “bumps in the carpet” that they finally decide that they need help.

3. As counselors, our role is to support what God is doing as He slowly pulls back the carpet to address what has been swept underneath.

4. Why must we deal with sin? Can't we move on with life and ignore it? Not if we want to be _____.

5. There is no "statute of limitations" on sin.

6. Like a bend in a fishing pole tells us that there is something hooked under the surface of the water.... exaggerated "bends in our emotions" tell us something has been hooked under the surface in us.

Colossians 2:6

"As you have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him."

KEY _____

- A. We now are **TURNING THE CORNER** from identification of the problem to an examination of the solution.

_____ occurs the same way _____.

- B. How did we find Salvation?

Ephesians 2:8

“It is by grace that you were saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is a gift of God”

KEY _____

A. Salvation occurs by _____ through _____.

B. Salvation by definition is _____. (Galatians 3:3)

C. It involves an _____.

1. We do something on earth that has a heavenly effect...
2. God does something in heaven that has an earthly effect.

D. Sanctification is the result of our _____.....

1. Responsibility - Our Response to His Ability
2. The “Desperation Factor”

E. and His _____

1. Eph 1:18-21

"I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms,"

2. 1 Thess 1:5
"... our gospel came to you not simply with words, but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and with deep conviction."

3. Phil 2:12-13
"... for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose."

4. Peter walking on the water.

5. Building the Frames

Matt 18:18

"I tell you the truth, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

KEY _____

- A. We deal with the Sins that are committed against us through _____.
- B. Matthew 18 deals with the topic of forgiveness.
 1. Forgiveness is a _____.
 2. Biblical Forgiveness is more about an exchange between the offended party and God than between the offended and the offender.

3. Forgiveness is the choice to release a person to God. Recognizing that He is the Judge... not us. And only He has the right and authority to determine the discipline, judgement or revenge.
 - a. Unforgiveness is our way of usurping Gods job.
 - b. Forgiveness is tearing up the I.O.U.
 - c. Handing them over to Jesus and then walking away.

4. When we forgive, Jesus releases us from the power that sin has had over us.
 - a. Just as through Justification we are made as though we never sinned..... through forgiveness, we are made as though we have not been sinned against.

5. Forgiveness is **NOT**:
 - a. ... Saying, "It's OK".
 - b. ... Saying, "It's forgotten".

6. We do not need to forgive EVERY sin...

Matt 18:35

35"This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother from your heart."

- A. Biblical Forgiveness is from the heart. This means from the place of _____ & _____.

1. Hurt and Anger are the Biblical Responses to Sin
 - a. Jesus weeping over Jerusalem

b. Jesus with the Money Changers

2. If we fail to forgive.... Hurt and Anger turn into Despair and Bitterness.

B. Often we sweep sins from our childhood under the carpet.

1. **Only Jesus** should pull the carpet back.

2. It is common for a **gap** to exist between the head and the heart

3. We are always better off when we forgive quickly – it is at that moment that our heads and our hearts are well connected.

4. A counselor should not suggest, guess or prophesy about what the person does not remember.

5. As God slowly pulls back the carpet, we must forgive **over and over** because layers of hurt and anger are revealed.

1 John 1:8-9

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”

KEY _____

A. We deal with our own sins through _____ & _____.

B. Repentance is a _____.

1. We give God our sin by confession and repentance.

2. In return God gives us Forgiveness AND supernaturally cleanses us of the unrighteousness. From the inside out.

- C. The call to repentance is God's invitation to restored intimacy.
 - D. Repentance means to _____.
1. We repent even if society says that our behavior is OK.
 2. We repent of our sinful responses to sins committed against us.
 - a. Defense Mechanisms
 - b. Self determined boundaries
 3. We repent of Attitudes and Actions
 4. We repent of both _____ and _____ sins.
 5. We repent even if we fear that we may fall again.
 6. We DO NOT need to repent of temptation.

2 Peter 1:5-8

“For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

KEY _____

- A. Sanctification is a work of God in which we must also participate. (Col. 2:8)

- C. Sanctification occurs best when we remain in an _____ conducive to _____.
- D. Fellowship
 - 1. Accountability
 - 2. Intimacy with Christ
 - 3. Bible Study
 - 4. Worship
 - 5. Service

“A discipline is something you do in your power so you will be made able to do something not within your power.” Dallas Willard

III. The Threefold Goal of the Biblical Counselor **ETC**

- A. **Educate**

- B. **Train**

- C. **Connect**

Gospel of Wholeness: the total picture

Scripture Reference(s)	Key Concept	Scripture Text
Genesis 3:6-13	The Common Problem	<i>When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. 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 as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?" He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid." And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?" The man said, "The woman you put here with me--she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it."</i>
Jeremiah 2:13	Empty Wells	<i>"My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water."</i>
Galatians 6:7-8	Sowing & Reaping	<i>Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.</i>
Colossians 2:6	Turning the Corner	<i>As you have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him.</i>
Ephesians 2:8	Supernatural Exchange	<i>It is by grace that you were saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is a gift of God.</i>
Matt. 18:18 & 35	Forgiveness: From the Heart	<i>"I tell you the truth, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." (v. 18) "This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother from your heart." (v.35)</i>
1John 1:9	Repentance & Confession	<i>If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.</i>
2Peter 1:5-8	Add to your Faith	<i>For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. (emphasis added)</i>

