**Session One: *The Gospel Message***

**G**et **M**y **G**ranny a **C**up of **F**lour - **G.M.G.C.F…**

**Grace** toward **Man** from **God** in **Christ** though **Faith**

1. **Grace:** Heaven is a **free** gift. It is not **earned** nor **deserved**

For the wages of sin is **death** but the free **gift** of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- **Romans 6:23**

For by **grace** you have been saved through **faith,** and that not of yourselves, it is the **gift** of God; not as a result of **works** so that no one may boast. - **Ephesians 2:8-9**

Illustration: *Gift from a friend*

Why can't we have eternal life? Because the bible teaches that:

1. **Man:** Man is a **sinner** and cannot **save** himself.

For all have **sinned** and fall **short** of the glory of God - **Romans 3:23**

Illustration: *Arrow falls short of the target / basketball of the hoop*

Therefore you are to be **perfect**, as your Heavenly Father is **perfect** - **Matthew 5:48**

Illustration: *Spit in coke / Omelet*

We can't save ourselves because of what the Bible teaches about God:

1. **God:** God is **merciful** and therefore does not want to **punish** us

God is **love.** - **1 John 4:8**

However God is “just.” He would not be just if He did not punish our sin. 

God is **just**…He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the **gospel** of our Lord Jesus

**– 2 Thessalonians 1:6 &8**

Illustration: *Commit a crime (break the law) e.g. Rob a bank…*

We have a problem, because we have all broken God’s laws and all fall short of His standard.

However, God solved this problem in the person of Jesus Christ:

1. **Christ:** Christ is the **atonement** for sin.

Who is Christ? He is both **man** & **God**.

In the **beginning** was the Word (Christ). The Word was with God. The Word was **God**. – **John 1:1**

So the Word became **flesh** (human) and made his home among us… we have seen the glory of the Father’s one and only **Son.** – **John 1:14**

Since Christ is God the Son revealed in human form, He was able to live a perfect life and **never** sinned. That is why He **alone** is able to be the **atonement** for our sin.

Christ **never** sinned but God put our sin on Him. Then we are made right with God because of what Christ has **done** for us. **– 2 Corinthians 5:21**

So eternal life cannot be received by what we can **do,** hoping that my good deeds outweigh my bad.

Rather, the Bible teaches that Eternal Life is based on what Jesus Christ has already **done**

So then, what has Christ **done** for us?

He **died** on the cross to pay the penalty for our sin and then **rose** from the dead to secure a place in heaven for us.

Illustration: *Only three sins a day recorded in a record book of sin…*

Jesus said, “It is **finished**.” With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit. – **John 19:30**

So once again, it’s not what we can **do**, but rather because of what Christ has **done** that we may have Eternal Life.

So, how do we get this gift from God? It is only received through **faith**:

1. **Faith:** Faith is **essential** for salvation.

Faith is not just **head** knowledge nor is it just **temporary** faith.

True saving faith is **trust** in Jesus Christ alone for our eternal life. 

You believe that God is one. You do **well**; yet even the **demons** believe, and shudder. - **James 2:19**

"**Believe** in the Lord Jesus, and you will be **saved**, you and your household." - **Acts 16:31**

Illustration: *Tight rope walker…*

1. Does this make sense to you?
2. If you were to die today, do you believe that you would go to Heaven? Why?
3. If you were to stand before God and He asked, “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_” (place your name here), why should I let you into my Kingdom?” What would you answer Him?
4. Can the good deeds that you *do*, earn you a place in Heaven, or is Eternal life based on what Christ has already *done?* The finished work of dying on the cross for our sins?
5. If you trust in Christ and *not* your good deeds to save you, you have just stepped over the “Starting line” of your faith-walk. Get ready for the race of your life!
6. In the next session, we’ll talk about what actually happens in the Spiritual realm when you talk this step of faith and how it will affect our day to day living.