

The gospel or “good news” of Jesus Christ is this:  
God reigns through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Eternal life with God is made possible by submitting to Jesus through faith and repentance.

## **Jesus lived the life you could not live**

*—sinless under the law*

Jesus lived a perfect life, even though he was tempted in every way that we are (Heb 4:15). Because he is truly God and truly man, he was able to perfectly meet every single requirement of God’s law. Hebrews 7:26 says that Jesus was “holy, innocent, unstained.” Because of his purity, he could be a blameless sacrifice for the sins of mankind—a “lamb without blemish” (1 Pet 1:19).

## **Jesus died the death that you should have died**

*—as a substitute in our place*

Jesus didn’t deserve to die—we did. We have all sinned against, disobeyed, and rebelled against God. We choose to follow the “passions of the flesh” (Eph 2:3), separating ourselves from him. “But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (Rom 5:8). Jesus died a torturous death on a cross, defeating Satan, sin, and death. On that cross, the sins of everyone who would believe in him were transferred to him. Bearing their punishment, he satisfied the righteous anger of God toward all who would believe in him.

## **Jesus rose again**

*—to give new life to all who would place their faith in him*

Jesus was buried in a tomb, and on the third day he was raised from the dead. He stepped out of that tomb a risen, living, victorious Savior. He ascended back to heaven and is now seated at the right hand of God the Father, where he is ruling and reigning over all creation. Jesus freely invites anyone to experience eternal life with God if they would trust in Jesus as their Lord and Savior through faith and repentance.

## **Responding to the Gospel**

A positive response to the gospel of Jesus is faith and repentance. To have *faith* in Jesus means to absolutely depend on Jesus Christ alone for salvation. It is choosing to no longer trust in yourself and your own good works, but to trust in God’s promises through Jesus. To *repent* means to change your allegiance. When you say yes to Jesus, you are saying no to any other god, including your sin and yourself. It’s about turning from your sin and how you want to live your life, and turning toward and treasuring Christ, submitting to his authority and allowing him to direct and transform you.

If you choose to respond to the gospel of Jesus with repentant faith, you will receive forgiveness of sins, the Holy Spirit to change you from the inside-out, a new community of adopted children of God, a new mission to love people and spread the gospel, and eternal hope (Acts 2:38-47).