

Colossians 1:1-8

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, to God's holy people in Colossae, the faithful brothers and sisters in Christ:

Grace and peace to you from God our Father.

We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all God's people — the faith and love that spring from the hope stored up for you in heaven and about which you have already heard in the true message of the gospel that has come to you. In the same way, the gospel is bearing fruit and growing throughout the whole world — just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and truly understood God's grace. You learned it from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf, and who also told us of your love in the Spirit.

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Why do we need to hear the Gospel again, and again?

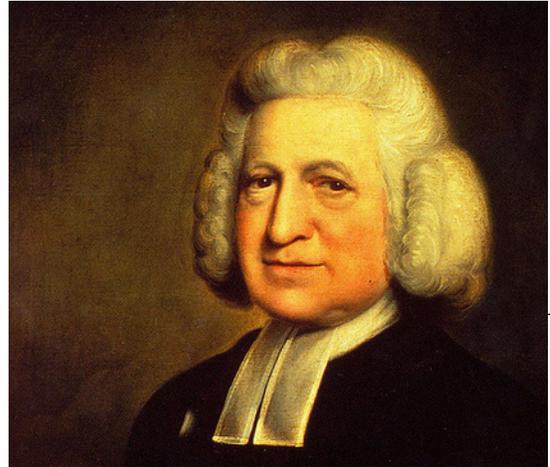
- a) We can be deeply religious, but still not get it.
- b) Charles Wesley
- c) We are offered supplements and additives.
- d) We are small in our thinking about God.

We so easily forget it.
Is it like riding a bike?

If you have behaved in fear, anger, anxiety, complaining, frustration, out of guilt this week, (and my guess is you have), then you need the gospel to shape you (again)!

“ I received the sacrament but not Christ.”

*“I saw by **faith** I stood! Though of myself I am always sinking in sin. So went to bed sensing my weakness but finally confident in Christ!”*



Journal of Charles Wesley

What is the Gospel of Jesus?

Colossians 1:4-6

It comes to you

Good News of Great Joy! Mark 2

It is a teaching

Hope of the inheritance of Heaven

“After each failure, ask forgiveness, pick yourself up, and try again. Very often what God first helps us towards is not the virtue itself but just this power to always try again.”



What is the Gospel of Jesus?

Colossians 1:4-6

Hope of the inheritance of Heaven (**Adoption**)

4 But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. 6 And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" 7 So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

(Ga 4:4-7).

How do we know we have it?

Colossians 1:5 and 8

Bearing fruit and growing

Loving in the Spirit

"Even when we are under great pressure, we can have a strange sort of Joy."

Darrell Johnson.