

## **The Gospel or “Good News”**

*The Gospel is expressed in many ways, and often only in part, and that can lead to confusion. Below is my attempt to share in the fewest words possible, the most important elements.*

God almighty was before everything, created everything and He is Holy. He is always present, always knows, and holds all power. Evil or sinfulness will not stand in God's presence.

Mankind was created by God in the image of God to rule over earth and to enjoy intimacy with God. God gave the first man Adam one command; that he was forbidden to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Adam and Eve sinned by breaking that command and were cast away from God's presence; bringing the curse of death and the sinful nature to mankind and all creation.

God in an act of immeasurable, miraculous love send His son Jesus Christ to earth to bring mankind back to Him. Jesus lived a sinless life in full obedience to God, healing people, even raising some from the dead and teaching how we can get right with God.

Jesus gave his life as payment for the sin of all mankind. He suffered a terrible public death, was buried, and rose from the dead as the prophets had predicted. He appeared at least five times to his followers, to more than 500 at one time.

Jesus taught that to receive the gift of forgiveness from God, have a place in God's family and eternal life, we must believe in God and Jesus his son. Nobody can earn this, be good enough to stand before this Holy God.

We must accept that we are sinful, that we can never be good enough, and claim Jesus as our pardon. When we do this, we're fully forgiven and begin the journey back to intimacy with God. The fear of death leaves, and leading from the Holy Spirit of God begins to direct our life.

*\*After accepting Jesus as Savior, it's very important to learn the next steps and be surrounded by a faith family to encourage you and help you grow. If you don't have a faith family to do this, I invite you to join our faith family.*