

## What is the Gospel?

Dr. R.C. Sproul | taken from [ligonier.org/blog/what-is-the-gospel](http://ligonier.org/blog/what-is-the-gospel)

There is no greater message to be heard than that which we call the gospel. But as important as that is, it is often given to massive distortions or over simplifications. People think they're preaching the gospel to you when they tell you, 'you can have a purpose to your life', or that 'you can have meaning to your life', or that 'you can have a personal relationship with Jesus.' All of those things are true, and they're all important, but they don't get to the heart of the gospel.

The gospel is called the 'good news' because it addresses the most serious problem that you and I have as human beings, and that problem is simply this: God is holy and He is just, and I'm not. And at the end of my life, I'm going to stand before a just and holy God, and I'll be judged. And I'll be judged either on the basis of my own righteousness—or lack of it—or the righteousness of another. The good news of the gospel is that Jesus lived a life of perfect righteousness, of perfect obedience to God, not for His own well being but for His people. He has done for me what I couldn't possibly do for myself. But not only has He lived that life of perfect obedience, He offered Himself as a perfect sacrifice to satisfy the justice and the righteousness of God.

The great misconception in our day is this: that God isn't concerned to protect His own integrity. He's a kind of wishy-washy deity, who just waves a wand of forgiveness over everybody. No. For God to forgive you is a very costly matter. It cost the sacrifice of His own Son. So valuable was that sacrifice that God pronounced it valuable by raising Him from the dead—so that Christ died for us, He was raised for our justification. So the gospel is something objective. It is the message of who Jesus is and what He did. And it also has a subjective dimension. How are the benefits of Jesus subjectively appropriated to us? How do I get it? The Bible makes it clear that we are justified not by our works, not by our efforts, not by our deeds, but by faith—and by faith alone. The only way you can receive the benefit of Christ's life and death is by putting your trust in Him and in Him alone. You do that, you're declared just by God, you're adopted into His family, you're forgiven of all of your sins, and you have begun your pilgrimage for eternity.

## Announcements

- Prayer Meeting this Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. at the church.
- To volunteer to help clean the church property, please contact the church at [info@antiochpca.com](mailto:info@antiochpca.com).

### Vision

**Our vision** is to see the historic Antioch Presbyterian Church revitalized as a worshipping community to be a blessing to every man, woman, and child in the growing residential hub west of Woodruff and south of Reidville, to the glory of God.

### Mission

**Our mission** as a parish church at the crossroads of Greenville and Spartanburg Counties is the gathering and perfecting of God's people through biblical worship, evangelism, and pastoral care.

### Areas of Ministry Focus

*Expository Preaching*  
*Biblical Worship*  
*Parish Evangelism*  
*Pastoral Care*  
*Discipleship*

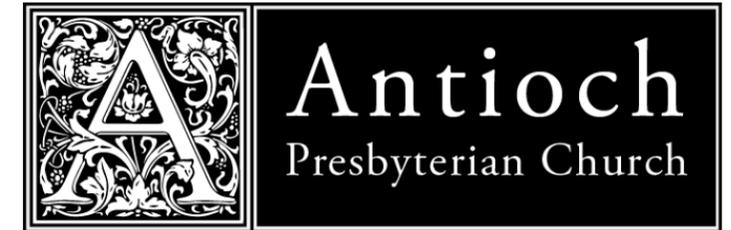
### Leadership & Accountability

As a *mission work*, Antioch Presbyterian Church (PCA) is governed and overseen by a *provisional session* of elders serving as a *commission* of Calvary Presbytery. The six men appointed to the *provisional session* are active elders within the bounds of Calvary Presbytery, and they have graciously agreed to serve "above-and-beyond" to encourage the revitalization of Antioch. They include:

Dr. Chipley Bennett, Ph.D. – Ruling Elder, Providence Presbyterian Church  
Dr. E. Todd Buchner, D.Min. – Pastor, Reidville Presbyterian Church  
Mr. Richard Hollifield – Ruling Elder, Roebuck Presbyterian Church  
Mr. William Johnson – Ruling Elder, Woodruff Road Presbyterian Church  
Dr. Joseph A. Pipa, Jr., Ph.D., D.D. – Professor of Systematic & Applied Theology, President Emeritus, Greenville Presbyterian Theological Seminary;  
Organizing Pastor & Moderator of Session, Antioch Presbyterian Church  
Pastor Richard Thomas – Senior Pastor, Mount Calvary Presbyterian Church;  
Clerk of Session, Antioch Presbyterian Church

### Church Staff

Mr. Zachary Groff – Ministerial Assistant  
Dr. Joseph A. Pipa, Jr. – Organizing Pastor & Moderator of Session



The Lord's Day  
January 17, 2021

"Wisdom in Applying the Word"  
*James 1:19-27*  
Mr. Johann Xie

Worship – Sunday, 5:00 p.m.  
Prayer Meeting – Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.

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# The Lord's Day

January 17, 2021

## Meditation

*Psalm 111:10*

*The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; a good understanding have all those who do His commandments; His praise endures forever.*

## \*Call to Worship

## \*Congregational Commitment

**Minister: Congregation, in whom is your confidence?**

Congregation: Our help is in the Name of the Lord, Who made the heavens and the earth.

## \*Salutation

## \*Hymn of Adoration

**No. 111B**

*O Give the LORD Wholehearted Praise*  
GERMANY

## \*Prayer of Adoration & Invocation

## \*Revelation of God's Will

*Exodus 20:1-17*

## \*Confession of Sin & Supplication for Grace

Almighty God, Who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly acknowledge that we have not lived in a manner worthy of Your redeeming grace. You have raised us up with Christ Who is seated at Your right hand. You have commanded us to set our mind on the things above and not on the things of earth. Yet we have transgressed Your laws by loving ourselves more than You our God, or our neighbor. We are so easily caught up in the materialism of our day, worshipping the creature and the creation, rather than You, our Creator. Thus, do we forget Your mighty victory over sin and death. Have mercy upon us, O God. Deliver us from immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, all of which is idolatry. Do not leave us to ourselves but send Your Spirit that we may live above this fallen world, and show forth Your resurrection power. In the exalted Name of our risen Savior, Amen.

## \*Assurance of Pardon

*Romans 6:5, 6*

<sup>5</sup>For if we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be in the likeness of His resurrection, <sup>6</sup>knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Him, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin.

## Offering

**No. 215**

*Give to Our God Immortal Praise*  
WARRINGTON

## \*Prayer of Thanksgiving & Supplication

*Lord's Prayer*

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

## Hymn of Preparation

**No. 119L**

*Eternal Is Your Word, O LORD*  
MELITA

## \*Prayer for Illumination

## \*Old Testament Reading

*Proverbs 10:11-21, 31, 32*

## \*New Testament Reading

*James 1:19-27*

## \*Congregational Response

**Leader: Be doers of the Word,**

Congregation: And not hearers only, deceiving yourselves!

## Sermon

“Wisdom in Applying the Word”

*James 1:19-27*

## Prayer of Application

## \*Hymn of Response

**No. 147B**

*O Praise the LORD, for It Is Good*  
MINERVA

## \*Benediction

## \*Doxology

**No. 567**

*Doxology*  
OLD HUNDREDTH

*\*Congregation standing, unless physically hindered*

## “Wisdom in Applying the Word”

*James 1:19-27*

## Main Proposition

The Christian profits from the Word of God by receiving, practicing, and sharing it.

## Outline

I. Receive the Word for Profit (vv. 19-21)

II. Practice the Word for Profit (vv. 22-25)

III. The Evidence of Profiting from the Word (vv. 26, 27)