

## 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 with physical projects, 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*

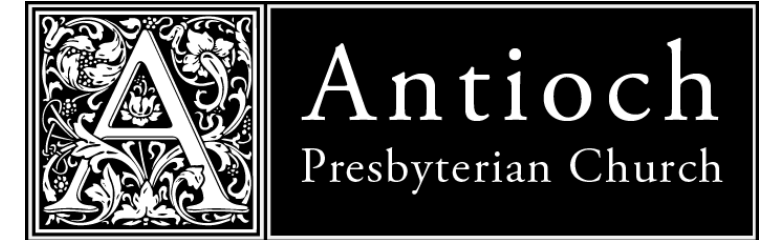
### Leadership & Accountability

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  
Mr. Johann Xie – Ministerial Intern



The Lord's Day  
March 28, 2021

“The Mature Minister”

1 Timothy 4:12, 13

Dr. Joseph A. Pipa, Jr.

Worship – Sunday, 5:00 p.m.

Prayer Meeting – Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.

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# The Lord's Day

March 28, 2021

## Meditation

*Psalm 23:1*

*The LORD is my Shepherd, I shall not want.*

## \*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. 210**

*O God, We Praise Thee*  
DUNDEE

## \*Prayer of Adoration & Invocation

## \*Revelation of God's Will

*Matthew 22:34-40*

## \*Confession of Sin & Supplication for Grace

Almighty God, we are sinners. Your Word and our hearts confirm that to us. We have done things You have forbidden and left undone things You have commanded. We have not loved You with all our hearts, souls, minds, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. As Judge of the whole earth, You would be just to condemn us. Yet in Your love You sent Christ to bear the guilt of our sin and suffer our punishment. To Him now we flee; forgive us for His sake, and by Your Spirit help us to live in the light of His sacrifice, a life worthy of Your Name. Judge us not according to our works, but according to Your mercy in Jesus Christ. For in Him we hope and in Him we come before You this day. Amen.

## \*Assurance of Pardon

*1 John 1:8, 9*

<sup>8</sup> *If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us.* <sup>9</sup> *If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

## Offering

**No. 67A**

*O God, to Us Show Mercy*  
MEIRIONYDD

## \*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. 119U**

*Though Princes Hound Me for No Cause*  
FEDERAL STREET (IPH 327)

## \*Prayer for Illumination

## \*Old Testament Reading

*Joshua 1:1-9*

## \*New Testament Reading

*1 Timothy 4:12-16*

## \*Congregational Response

**Leader: The earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord,**  
Congregation: As the waters cover the sea!

## Sermon

*"The Mature Minister"*

*1 Timothy 4:12, 13*

## Prayer of Application

## \*Hymn of Response

**No. 464**

*The Beatitudes*  
QUEBEC

## \*Benediction

## \*Doxology

**No. 572**

*Gloria Patri*  
GLORIA PATRI (Creatorex)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, amen.

*\*Congregation standing, unless physically hindered*

## "The Mature Minister"

*1 Timothy 4:12, 13*

## Main Proposition

The mature minister must be the pattern of godliness as he diligently labors in his calling.

## Outline

- I. The Mature Minister Must be the Pattern of Godliness (v. 12)
- II. The Mature Minister Must be Diligent in His Work (v. 13)