

CROSSPOINT'S VISION

1 Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. 2 And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

Luke 15:1-2

Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

Luke 15:7

Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents.

Luke 15:10

"For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found." And they began to celebrate.

Luke 15:24

WHY WE EXIST AS A CHURCH

The existence of CrossPoint is based on two key scriptures:

The Great Commandment

"Teacher, which [is] the great commandment in the law?" Jesus said to him, "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets." **Matthew 22:36-40**

The Great Commission

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, [even] to the end of the age." Amen. **Matthew 28:18-20**

**Truth: We exist as a church to MAKE DISCIPLES
who LOVE the Lord.**

OUR VISION FOR DISCIPLEMAKING

To be brief, CrossPoint's vision is **JUST ONE MORE**.

To be more specific, CrossPoint exists to glorify God by reaching ***JUST ONE MORE*** to become a fully devoted follower of Christ.

THE THREE COMPONENTS OF OUR VISION

UPWARD component – *CrossPoint exists to glorify God...*

OUTWARD component – *...by reaching **JUST ONE MORE**...*

FORWARD component – *... to become a fully devoted follower of Christ.*

OUR PROCESS FOR DISCIPLEMAKING

To be brief, CrossPoint's process is to **CONNECT**.

To be more specific, CrossPoint exists to glorify God by reaching ***JUST ONE MORE*** to become a fully devoted follower of Jesus Christ to CONNECT...

...with **GOD THROUGH JESUS CHRIST**

...with **GOD'S PEOPLE**

...with **GOD'S PLAN**

HOW TO CONNECT TO THE DISCIPLEMAKING PROCESS

First, I must CONNECT with GOD THROUGH JESUS CHRIST.

But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God. **John 1:12**

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." **John 14:6**

And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved. **Acts 4:12**

...but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. **John 20:31**

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God that you may know that you have eternal life. **1 John 5:13**

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO CONNECT WITH GOD THROUGH JESUS CHRIST?

1. There are three facts of salvation

Fact #1: All people have SINNED.

...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. **Romans 3:23**

Fact #2: The penalty for any sin DEATH.

For the wages of sin is death... **Romans 6:23**

Fact #3: Jesus Christ died to pay the PENALTY for our sin.

But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. **Romans 5:8**

2. However, salvation is more than just believing FACTS Jesus.

28 Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light. **Matthew 11:28-30**

3. This personal invitation from Christ seeks a PERSONAL RESPONSE from each one who hears it.

16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. 18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. **John 3:16-18**

4. We must respond personally to Jesus' invitation by REPENTANCE and FAITH.

14 After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. 15 "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!" **Mark 1:14-15**

A. To repent is to TURN FROM OUR SIN.

Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. **Matthew 3:2**

B. To believe in Jesus is to CONFESS that Jesus is Lord and that God has raised Him from the dead.

9 because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. **Romans 10:9 & 10**

5. Salvation is a personal invitation from Jesus for FORGIVENESS and ETERNAL LIFE.

Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out. **Act 3:19**

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. **John 3:16**

Next, I must **CONNECT** with **GOD'S PEOPLE** through a Bible study group.

Why should I **CONNECT** with God's people through a Bible study group?

1. To **STUDY** God's Word.

Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.

2 Timothy 2:15

2. To **ENCOURAGE** one another.

24 And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, 25 not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Hebrews 10:24-25

3. To **FELLOWSHIP** with one another.

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

1 John 1:7

4. To **LOVE** one another.

20 If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. 21 And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

1 John 4:20-21

Truth: CrossPoint must be growing **SMALLER** while we are growing **LARGER**.

Finally, I must **CONNECT** with **GOD'S PLAN**.

16 Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. 17 And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. 18 And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." **Matthew 28:16-20**

I **CONNECT** with God's Plan by...

1. Identifying my **MINISTRY** in the church.

10 As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: 11 whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. **1 Peter 4:10-11**

2. Discovering my **MISSION** in the world.

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth. **Acts 1:8**

CROSSPOINT'S STRUCTURE

HOW OUR CHURCH IS STRUCTURED

Truth: The nature of the church determines its STRUCTURE.

1. THE BIBLE TEACHES THE CHURCH IS A FELLOWSHIP.

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. **Acts 2:42**

A. We believe a top priority in fellowship is UNITY and HARMONY.

...eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Ephesians 4:3

So then let us pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding.

Romans 14:19

Now in giving these instructions I do not praise [you,] since you come together not for the better but for the worse. For first of all, when you come together as a church, I hear that there are divisions among you, and in part I believe it.

I Corinthians 11:17-18

B. We believe any attitude that causes disunity is SIN.

Other Scripture regarding "unity:"

Col 3:15, 1 Cor 1:10, 2 Tim 2:14, Proverbs 17:14, 2 Cor 13:11,
Phil 1:27, 2:1-3, Col 2:2, Phil 4:2, 1 Pet 3:8, 1 Cor 14:33, Jn 13:34-35,
2 Tim 2:23, Rom 15:5-6, Rom 12:16-18, Col 3:13-14, Ps 133:1

C. We have discovered that voting tends to create DIVISION.

We vote on a few things at CrossPoint:

- The annual budget and legal trustees
- The purchase of land or buildings
- The calling of the senior pastor and staff
- Changes in the church charter or structure

- Borrowing money
- Items the church deems necessary

2. THE BIBLE TEACHES THE CHURCH IS A **FAMILY**.

Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous. **1 Peter 3:8**

A. We operate on the basis of **RELATIONSHIPS** not **RULES**.

See also: Galatians 6:10; Hebrews 2:10-12; 1 Peter 4:17

Do not rebuke an older man, but exhort [him] as a father, younger men as brothers, older women as mothers, younger women as sisters, with all purity. **1 Timothy 5:1-2**

One who rules his own house well, having [his] children in submission with all reverence for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God? **1 Timothy 3:4-5**

So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith. **Galatians 6:10**

For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering. For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one origin. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers, saying, "I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise." **Hebrews 2:10-12**

For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey and gospel of God? **1 Peter 4:17**

3. THE BIBLE TEACHES THE CHURCH IS A BODY.

For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, so we, [being] many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, if prophecy, in proportion to our faith.

Romans 12:4-6

A. We function on the basis of SPIRITUAL GIFTS, not ELECTED POSITIONS.

See also: 1 Corinthians 12:27; Ephesians 5:23; 1:22-23; Colossians 1:18; 2:19

B. We have a simple structure so we can maximize MINISTRY and minimize MAINTENANCE.

And He Himself gave some [to be] apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

Ephesians 4:11

C. We believe every member is a MINISTER.

4. THE BIBLE TEACHES THE CHURCH IS A **FLOCK**.

This was Jesus' favorite description of the church.

He said to him again a second time, "Simon, [son] of Jonah, do you love Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Tend My sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon, [son] of Jonah, do you love Me?" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Feed My sheep." **John 21:16-17**

See Also: Matthew 26:31; 25:33; John 10:1-30

A. We believe the church is cared for and led by **SHEPHERDS**.

1 So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed: 2 shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly. **I Peter 5:1-2**

17 Now from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him... 28 Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. **Acts 20:17, 28**

CROSSPOINT'S VALUES

Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and [that] there be no divisions among you, but [that] you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

1 Corinthians 1:10

Value #1: We value the WORD OF GOD.

Why do we value the Word of God?

1. We value the Word of God because we believe it is the inerrant WORD of God.

The Bible always tells the truth, and that it always tells the truth concerning everything it talks about. It does not affirm anything that is contrary to fact.

The words of the Lord are pure words, like silver refined in a furnace on the ground, purified seven times.
Psalm 12:6

2. We value the Word of God because we believe it is the final AUTHORITY for life.

All the words in Scripture are God's words in such a way that to disbelieve or disobey any word of Scripture is to disbelieve or disobey God.

16 Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.
2 Timothy 3:16-17

3. We value the Word of God because we believe it is God's SELF REVELATION to man.

The Bible is necessary for knowing that God exists. It teaches us something about God's character and moral laws. It is also necessary for knowing the gospel, for maintaining spiritual life, and for knowing God's will.

Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord!
Psalm 119:1

4. We value the Word of God because we believe it is the practical GUIDE for life.

The Bible is written in such a way that its teachings are able to be understood and practiced by all who will read it seeking God's help and being willing to follow it.

6 And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. 7 You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.
Deuteronomy 6:6-8

Value #2: We value Gospel-centered PREACHING.

Why do we value Gospel-centered preaching?

1. We value Gospel-centered preaching so that God may be GLORIFIED.

“The chief end of preaching is to give men and women a sense of God and His presence.”
Martyn Lloyd-Jones, *Preaching and Preachers*

1 And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. 2 For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. 3 And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, 4 and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, 5 that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.
1 Corinthians 2:1-5

2. We value Gospel-centered preaching so that lost people will be SAVED.

People cannot believe in Christ unless they have heard of him. They cannot hear of Christ unless there is someone to tell them about Christ. The conclusion is that saving faith comes by hearing the gospel message, and this hearing of the gospel message comes about through the preaching of Christ.

14 But how are they to call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching?
Romans 10:14-15

3. We value Gospel-centered preaching so that saved people will be SANCTIFIED.

I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: 2 preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching.
2 Timothy 4:1-2

Value #3: We value biblical STEWARDSHIP.

TRUTH: CrossPoint is a GENEROUS CHURCH.

In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Acts 20:35

In the same way there are streams that feed a river, like Alabama's Cahaba River, there are streams that feed the CrossPoint River of stewardship also. Feeding into the CrossPoint River are three streams of generosity. These three streams give the life to our church. These streams enable us to meet needs. They provide the assets necessary to fulfill our vision.

1. The MINISTRY Stream.

The Ministry Stream includes funds to support the ongoing ministries of CrossPoint. This includes programs for all age groups, supplies, special events, personnel expenses, facilities maintenance, equipment, utilities, and many other items included in our ministry budget. The Stewardship Team develops the budget, presents it to the church family for approval each December, and then monitors the expenses throughout the year.

2. The MORTGAGE Stream.

The Mortgage Stream includes contributions to pay down our mortgage. Our regular monthly payment is included in the ministry budget. This allows every dollar given to this stream to help pay down the indebtedness for our beautiful facilities at CrossPoint. This year through *It's Your Move*, this stream will also fund the expansion of our worship center.

3. The MISSION Stream.

The Mission Stream includes gifts to the World Missions Offering. Fifty percent (50%) of this money goes to Southern Baptist international mission efforts. Twenty-five percent (25%) goes to Southern Baptist North American mission work, and 25% is allocated to direct mission efforts involving CrossPoint members.

Value #4: We value baptism by **IMMERSION**.

A. Why be baptized by immersion?

1. We baptize by immersion because **JESUS** was baptized that way.

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. **Mark 1:9**

2. We baptize by immersion because Christ **COMMANDED** it.

19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. **Matthew 28:19-20b**

3. We baptize by immersion because it demonstrates that I really am a **CHRISTIAN**.

Crispus, the ruler of the synagogue, believed in the Lord, together with his entire household. And many of the Corinthians hearing Paul believed and were baptized. **Acts 18:8**

And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. **1 John 2:3**

4. We baptize by immersion because every baptism in the **BIBLE** was by immersion.

And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. **Acts 8:38**

5. We baptize by immersion because the word “baptize” means to **IMMERSE** in water.

The Greek word *baptizo* means “to immerse or dip under water.” To be immersed or dipped under water symbolizes a burial and resurrection

B. What is the meaning of baptism?

1. It illustrates Christ's **DEATH** and resurrection.

3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scripture.

1 Corinthians 15:3-4 (See also Colossians 2:12)

2. It illustrates my **LIFE** as a Christian.

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (See also Romans 6:4)

C. Who should be baptized?

Every person who has **BELIEVED** in Christ.

So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

Acts 2:41 (See also Acts 8:12)

At CrossPoint, we wait until our children are old enough to believe in Jesus Christ, understand the true meaning of baptism and have professed faith in Christ before we baptize them.

Our church does not practice "infant baptism." This custom began about 300 years after the Bible was completed. However, our church does observe what we call "family dedication." This is a ceremony intended to be a covenant between the parents and God on behalf of the child. In this ceremony, the parents promise to rear their child in the faith until the child is old enough to make his own personal confession of Christ.

D. When should I be baptized?

As soon as you have **BELIEVED!**

So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

Acts 2:41 (See also Acts 8:35-38)

There is no reason to delay. As soon as you have decided to receive Christ into your life, you can and should be baptized.

Note: At CrossPoint, it is a membership requirement that every member must have been baptized the way Jesus demonstrated.

Value #5: We value the LORD'S SUPPER.

A. What is the Lord's Supper (1 Corinthians 11:17-34)?

1. The Lord's supper is a MEAL.

...that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread...
(vs.23)

2. The Lord's Supper is a SYMBOL.

and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me."
(vs.24)

3. The Lord's Supper is a COVENANT.

*In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."
(vs. 25)*

4. The Lord's Supper is a TESTIMONY.

For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
(v. 26)

B. Who should participate in the Lord's Supper?

Only those who are already SAVED.

For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself.
(Vs.29)

C. When do we observe the Lord's Supper?

Jesus never said when or how often believers should observe The Lord's Supper.

Usually about 12 TIMES a year and during special occasions.

Value #6: We value **REGENERATE CHURCH MEMBERSHIP**.

The difference between “attenders” and “members” can be summed up in one word: **COMMITMENT**.

A. Why join a church?

At CrossPoint, we recognize the need for a formal membership. We ask you to commit to membership for four reasons.

1. A **BIBLICAL** reason: Christ committed to the church.

Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her...

Ephesians 5:25

2. A **CULTURAL** reason: commitment to the church builds character.

3. A **PRACTICAL** reason: commitment determines who we can count on.

4. A **SPIRITUAL** reason: commitment to the church builds spiritual growth.

B. How do I join CrossPoint?

1. We ask that you **PROFESS** to be a follower of Jesus Christ.

A follower of Jesus Christ is someone who admits that he or she is a sinner and confesses that Jesus is Lord. This means that you have been spiritually reborn.

2. We ask that you follow Christ by being BAPTIZED by immersion.

If you have already been baptized by immersion either in another Southern Baptist Church or in a church that teaches baptism by immersion as a symbol of your salvation, then we accept that baptism. If you have never been baptized by immersion, we ask that you follow through with that commitment by scheduling your baptism at the end of today's class.

3. We ask that you SIGN a CrossPoint Membership Covenant that symbolizes your commitment to CrossPoint.

If you accepted Christ today you will join by **Profession of Faith and Baptism**. If you have previously accepted Christ, but have never been baptized by immersion you will join by **Statement of Faith and Baptism**. If you have previously accepted Christ and have been baptized by immersion, and you are coming from another Southern Baptist Church, you will join by **Transfer of Letter**. If you have previously accepted Christ and have been baptized by immersion, and you are coming from a church other than another Southern Baptist Church, you will join by **Statement of Faith**.

C. What is *RENEW*?

1. *RENEW* is CrossPoint's annual spiritual emphasis where we ask every member to *RENEW* his or her RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST as well as his or her MEMBERSHIP WITH CROSSPOINT.

... Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her...
Ephesians 5:25

2. *RENEW* includes middle school students through adults who are MEMBERS.

24 And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, 25 not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. **Hebrews 10:24-25**

3. The CrossPoint **DEACONS** conduct the *RENEW* follow up.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

Matthew 5:9

4. Members who do not *RENEW* will be invited to participate in the next regularly scheduled **MEMBERSHIP CLASS**.

THE CROSSPOINT MEMBERSHIP COVENANT

At CrossPoint, we only expect our members to do what the Bible expects every Christian to do. We ask you to make the following promises.

Having received Christ as my Lord and Savior, having been baptized, and being in agreement with CrossPoint's mission statement, I now feel led to unite with this church family and grow with them. In doing so, I commit myself to God and to the other members to do the following:

1. I will **PROTECT** the unity of my church.

...by acting in love toward other members

...by refusing to gossip

...by encouraging others

...by defending our mission

...by trusting the leadership

So then let us pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding.

Romans 14:19

2. I will **SHARE** the responsibility of my church.

- ...by praying for its growth
- ...by inviting **JUST ONE MORE** to attend
- ...by warmly welcoming those who visit
- ...by putting others first

To the church ... We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers. **1 Thessalonians 1:1-2**

3. I will **SERVE** the ministry of my church.

- ...by discovering my gifts and talents
- ...by identifying my passion for ministry
- ...by being equipped to serve
- ...by developing a servant's heart

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another... **1 Peter 4:10**

4. I will **SUPPORT** the finances of my church.

- ...by giving my tithe
- ...by being generous
- ...by helping others give
- ...by sharing my blessings

Every tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the trees, is the LORD's; it is holy to the LORD. **Leviticus 27:30**

5. I will **ENHANCE** the testimony of my church.

- ...by worshipping regularly
- ...by living worthily
- ...by serving eagerly
- ...by witnessing consistently

Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ... **Philippians 1:27**