Presenting the Gospel in its Context:

Faithfully Sowing the Seed According to the Scriptures

**“The Gospel Presentation” with Highlighted Scriptures for Easy Reference**

By Dr. Stuart Scott

1. Understanding God—Part 1: A Few Specific Attributes
   1. There is no one like the one true God
      1. Deut. 4:35; **Job 38:4-11**; Ps. 86:8-10; Isa. 40:18, 25–26; 44:6–7a; 46:5, 9; **Jer. 10:1-10**.
   2. He is triune (three distinct persons, of one substance, different in function)
      1. Gen. 1:26; **Deut. 6:4;** Matt. 28:19; **Luke 3:21–22**; John 1:1, 14; 5:18; 10:30; Acts 5:3–4; 2 Cor. 13:14; Col. 2:9; **1 Thess. 1:2–5**; 1 Peter 1:2.
   3. He is the creator, and he is personal
      1. **Gen. 1:26**; **Ps. 23:1-6**; 95:6–7; 100:3; Isa. 44:24; John 16:14; 17:1, 4, 22–26; Acts 17:24–25; **Eph. 1:3-5**; Col. 1:16–17 (“through him and for him.”)
   4. He is almighty and sovereign
      1. Deut. 32:39; **1 Chronicles 29:11**; Ps. 24:1–2; 47:7–8; 103:19; 135:5–6; Isa. 46:9–11; **Dan. 4:34b-35**; Rom. 1:20; 8:28–29.
   5. He is eternal
      1. **Isa. 57:15**; Col. 1:16–20; Jude 24–25; **Rev. 1:8**.
   6. He is righteous and holy
      1. **Lev. 11:44**; 1 Sam. 2:2; **Ps. 5:4**; Isa. 6:3; Hab. 1:13; **1 Peter 1:14–16**; 1 John 1:5; Rev. 4:8.
   7. He is just
      1. **Deut. 32:4**; **Ps. 9:7–8**; 89:14; Ecc. 12:14; Acts 17:31; Gal. 3:10; 1 Peter 3:18.
2. Understanding Man as Originally Created before the Fall
   1. Man was created in God’s image to (1) worship God, (2) delight in him, (3) reflect his glory, (4) live for his advantage, and (5) proclaim his majesty
      1. **Deut. 10:12–13; Ps. 16:11**; 73:25–26; Isa. 43:6–7; Col. 1:16–18.
   2. Man was created to be (1) loved, (2) cared for, (3) blessed by, (4) taught by, (5) satisfied by and comforted by God, and (6) to walk with him
      1. **Gen. 1:27–30; 2:15–17; 3:8**; Ex. 6:7; Deut. 4:20; Ps. 100:3: 107:8–9; Isa. 30:18; 43:4; Ezek. 14:11; John 4:24; 14:22–23; Titus 2:14.
3. Understanding Sin—Breaking or Not Keeping God’s Law
   1. Sin began with Satan in heaven.
      1. Gen. 3:1–15; Isa. 14:12; Luke 10:18; 2 Peter 2:4; **Jude 6.**
   2. Sin on earth began with Adam and has been passed to all mankind
      1. Gen. 2:17–18; **3:1–7; Rom. 3:23; 5:12, 18**.
   3. We are responsible individually for choosing to sin.
      1. Eccl. 7:20; Isa. 53:6; **Ezek. 18:2, 20;** Rom. 3:23; Gal. 3:10; Eph. 2:1–3; **1 John 1:8-10**.
   4. Sin separates.
      1. Gen. 3:8–24; Isa. 53:6a; 59:2; **Titus 3:3**.
   5. God’s wrath is upon all the unsaved.
      1. Ps. 5:4; Prov. 15:8–9; John 3:36; **Rom. 1:18.**
   6. Death, judgment, and hell are the results of our sin.
      1. Ex. 34:6–7; Ps. 7:11; **Matt. 10:28; 13:38–42, 49–50**; 25:31–46; Acts 17:30; Rom. 6:23; Gal. 3:10; 1 Thess. 1:10; Heb. 9:27; 10:26–27; Rev. 20:11–15.
   7. Mankind has is totally depraved since the fall of Adam.
      1. **Jer. 17:9–10**; Rom. 3:10–18; Eph. 2:1–3; 4:17–19; Titus 3:3.
4. Understanding Our Hopelessness apart from God’s Grace
   1. Man will not, by nature, be righteous.
      1. Eccl. 7:20; Isa. 53:6; 64:6; John 1:13; **Rom. 3:10–18.**
   2. Man cannot be made righteous by works.
      1. **Eph. 2:8–9**; Phil. 3:1–10; Titus 3:4–7; James 2:10.
   3. Ma is not made righteous by heritage or lineage.
      1. **John 1:13**; Phil. 3:4–7.
   4. Man will not, by our own will, be made righteous, nor seek it.
      1. John 1:12–13; 6:44, 65; Phil. 3:9; **Ezek. 36:26-27**.
   5. Our debt is insurmountable.
      1. Ps. 130:3; **Matt. 18:21–35**; Luke 7:40–50.
   6. We have no hope if we are trusting and relying on ourselves.
      1. Rom. 2:2–3; Gal. 3:10, 22–24; **Eph. 2:12**; Phil. 3:1–10; Col. 3:5–6; 1 Thess. 4:13.
5. Understanding God—Part 2: More Specific Attributes[[1]](#footnote-1)
   1. He is merciful and compassionate
      1. Ex. 33:19; Ps. 36:5; 145:8–9; Isa. 63:9; **Lam. 3:31–33**; John 1:14; 2 Cor. 1:3; 1 John 4:8.
   2. He is all-wise
      1. Isa. 55:8; **Rom. 11:33–34**.
   3. He is gracious in two ways:
      1. His common grace—**Matt. 5:43–48**; Rom. 2:4.
      2. His saving grace, which he bestows for His elect—**John 6:37, 44, 65**; Rom. 9:15–16; Eph. 1:3–6; 2:4–7; 1 Thess. 1:4.
   4. He is angry with the wicked, yet loving at the same time
      1. Ps. 5:4; **Prov. 15:8–9**; **John 3:16**; 1 John 3:16; 4:8–10; Mark 10:17–22.
6. Understanding the Incarnation
   1. Jesus Christ, the God-man.
      1. **John 1:1, 14**; Mark 10:45; Phil. 2:5–11.
   2. Jesus’ life: 100 percent righteous
      1. 2 Cor. 5:21; **Heb. 4:15.**
   3. Jesus’ death: His sacrifice paid, in full, the penalty for our sins; thus satisfying God’s wrath; Christ’s righteousness is now imputed unto believers.
      1. Rom. 5:19; **2 Cor. 5:21**; Gal. 3:13–14; 1 Peter 3:18.
   4. God the Father was satisfied with Christ’s death
      1. **Isa. 53:10–11**.
   5. Jesus’ resurrection: power over death and hope to come
      1. 1 Cor. 15:3–4; **1 Peter 1:3–5.**
   6. God offers reconciliation by grace through faith in Christ
      1. Acts 17:30–31; **Rom. 6:23; 10:13**; 2 Cor. 5:18–19; Eph. 2:13.
   7. God declares believers to be justified through Chris
      1. **Rom. 3:24–26**.
   8. God offers forgiveness of sins and heaven to believers only through Jesus
      1. **John 14:1–6**; Acts 4:12; Col. 2:13.
   9. God seeks worshipers and a people for himself through Jesus
      1. Isa. 45:22; **John 4:23**; Eph. 1:4.
7. Understanding Saving Faith (“believing”)—**John 1:12; 3:16**
   1. The knowledge (content) of the gospel, with Jesus as the object of faith
      1. **John 17:3;** Heb. 6:4; 10:26; James 2:19.
   2. The agreement (intellectual assent) with the gospel facts
      1. Matt. 13:20; John 6:44, 65; Acts 26; Heb. 6:4; **James 2:19.**
   3. A personal transfer of reliance from oneself to Jesus alone for justification
      1. **Isa. 55:6–7**; Matt. 13:23; Luke 14:25–33; John 14:21; Acts 3:19; 11:18; 2 Cor. 5:15; Phil. 3:9; 1 Thess. 1:9; 2 Tim. 2:25–26).
         1. This involves godly sorrow and repentance for all sin, an about-face and an all-out pursuit to love, submit to, fully trust in, and follow after the Lord Jesus Christ in obedience to his revealed will, by the Spirit’s enablement (grace, Acts 11:18; **2 Tim. 2:24-26**).
         2. This saving faith will always result in good works (**Eph. 2:10**; James 2:26). Faith and repentance are the only evidences that a man has a new heart: turning from sin to Christ reveals a new heart; failure to turn from sin and to Christ reveals an old heart.
8. Signs someone is coming to Christ without true faith:
   1. **Matt. 7:21-23**; 19:16–22.
      1. Doing God a favor that is deserving of his grace—“I’m so special.”
      2. Only for fire insurance (to avoid hell at death)—“I don’t want to suffer forever.”
      3. Adding a good and helpful thing to my life—“Why not, it can’t hurt?”
      4. So I can go to heaven with my family—“I want to see and be with them.”
      5. Wanting to become a better person—“I’m already good and this can make me better.”
      6. So Jesus can give me what I want, but I’m still living for my advantage.
      7. Wanting to be saved “in my sin” and not “from my sin.”
9. Signs someone is coming to Christ in true faith:
   1. With the right attitude
      1. Humbled with a broken and contrite heart over my sin before a holy God
         1. Matt. 5:3–5; Luke 15:18–19; **18:13–14**.
   2. With the right intentions—Jesus Christ as Lord.
      1. With a true desire and determination to turn from my sin and from living for myself
         1. 2 Cor. 5:15; **7:9–11**; **1 Thess. 1:9.**
      2. With a true desire and determination to depend on Christ’s righteousness and to live for him.
         1. **2 Cor. 5:15**; 1 Thess. 1:9.
      3. With the right response to His grace (thankfulness and joy).
         1. Rom 4:7-8
   3. Evidence that someone is saved:
      1. Matt 5:16; **Eph 2:10**; Jam 2:14-18; **1 John 2:4-6**.
10. Understanding Our Reconciliation with God—**2 Cor. 5**
    1. We are now at peace with God.
       1. **Rom 8:1; 5:1**
    2. He has given us a new heart.
       1. **Ezek. 36:25–27**; 11:19–20; 2 Cor. 5:17.
    3. He has freed us from the power of sin and enabled us to live as we were meant to
       1. **Rom. 6:5-11**
    4. He is our shepherd, high priest, comforter, and guide—**Ps. 23**; John 10:27–28; 2.
       1. Cor. 1:3–4; Heb. 4:14–16.
    5. He will take us home (by death or by his return) to live with him in his presence forever
       1. **John 14:1–3**; Col. 3:1–4; 1 Thess. 1:9–10; Rev. 22:1–3.
    6. We are called to love him, love others, and make disciples while we wait
       1. **Matt. 22:37–40; 28:19–20**; 2 Cor. 5:18, 20
11. Warning to Those Who Reject the Gospel
    1. Because of unbelief.
       1. **John 3:36**; 5:24; 1 John 2:19.
    2. Because of abandoning the only hope.
       1. **John 14:6**; Acts 4:12; **Heb. 6:4–8**; 10:26–31.
    3. Their way is treacherous.
       1. **Prov. 13:15**; Heb. 3:12–19.
    4. They will never experience what a life of worshiping God is like.
       1. Matt. 19:16–22; **John 10:10.**
    5. They will be separated from God and his grace forever.
       1. **Rev. 20:12–15; 21:8.**

You may download the PowerPoint presentation of this appendix on [www.oneeightycounseling.com](http://www.oneeightycounseling.com)

1. These are only a sampling of the attributes of God. For further reading, see Arthur W. Pink, *The Attributes of God* (Grand Rapids: Baker, 1991). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)