

The Good News on One Page

In an evangelism training at Colonial, Kent Mathews gave this challenge: take a single sheet of paper and write down how you would explain the gospel to a fifth-grader or your next-door neighbor. Many people who have been in church for years can't do it. You can.

The good news in four movements

Movement	The truth	Read
God	God made us for life with Him, and He loves us.	Genesis 1:27; John 3:16
Us	We have turned from God to run our own lives. Sin breaks our relationships with God, others, and ourselves, and we can't fix it on our own.	Romans 3:23; Isaiah 59:2
Christ	Jesus, God's Son, lived the life we couldn't, died for our sin, and rose from the dead.	1 Corinthians 15:3-4; 1 Peter 3:18
Response	We turn from sin (repent), trust Jesus (believe), and follow Him as Lord. He forgives us and gives us new life by His Spirit.	Mark 1:15; Ephesians 2:8-10

The Bible's big story

- **Creation.** God made a good world and made people in His image (Genesis 1-2).
- **Fall.** Humanity turned from God, and sin brought brokenness and death (Genesis 3).
- **Redemption.** God kept His promise to rescue, through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection (Luke 24:44-47).
- **Renewal.** Jesus reigns, gives His Spirit, and will return to make all things new (Revelation 21:1-5).

The good news in my own words

Write one or two sentences for each movement. Use everyday words, as if you were talking to a neighbor.

God _____

Us _____

Christ _____

Response _____

Sources & Acknowledgment

The original pathway

This booklet adapts and substantially rewrites material from *Discipleship Pathway* (2024) by Rev. Megan Koch and Rev. Phil Wiseman of Table Church in Des Moines, Iowa, used with the authors' blessing. The original identifies its license as Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International (CC BY 4.0).

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The Colonial adaptation

Prepared for Colonial Presbyterian Church by Pastor Jeff Sparks for the Be the L.I.G.H.T. Discipleship Pathway. This adaptation keeps the original ten lesson themes; adds a Launch session with a gospel foundation and a Commissioning session with a multiplication plan; restructures each lesson around a weekly meeting, one action step, and a five-day reading plan; and draws on Colonial's *Be the LIGHT Abide Guide* (P.R.A.Y., R³, BLESS, and the Abide Plan), earlier micro-course drafts, and Kent Mathews' evangelism training at Colonial (listening, validating, clarifying, and "know, tell, do, and be the story").

Also informed by

Zúme Training (the Model, Assist, Watch, Leave pattern and the emphasis on obeying and sharing between sessions); *Rooted* by Mariners Church (short daily readings and shared experiences); and *Practicing the Way* by John Mark Comer (one practice at a time, and a rule of life).

Quotations

John Mark Comer, *Live No Lies* (2021). Dallas Willard, on "pitching its message too low." Henri Nouwen, on downward mobility. Robert Louis Stevenson (attributed), on seeds and harvest. The *Didache* (early Christian teaching, 1st–2nd century), on weekly fasting.

Scripture

Scripture quotations are from the Berean Standard Bible (BSB), which is in the public domain. Read the full passages in any trustworthy translation or audio Bible.

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