

GOOD NEWS FOR REAL LIFE

Colossians 1:5-6; Luke 4:16-21

Good news isn't just information; it's transformation. The gospel speaks to real lives, offering people with real pain the gift of real hope, and has from the beginning. Jesus doesn't offer abstract theology; He announces good news that brings freedom, healing, and life. Starting at the beginning of Jesus' ministry, let's discover what makes "good news" truly good, and why it matters now more than ever.

Day 1: Read Luke 4:14-15.

The Gospel of Luke says news about Jesus was spreading.
How can you be a part of sharing the good news of Jesus today?

Day 2: Read Luke 4:16-22.

Jesus announces good news to the poor, captive, blind, and oppressed.
Where do you most need this kind of good news in your life right now?

Day 3: Read Luke 4:20-21.

After reading from the scroll, Jesus says, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled."
What does it mean to believe that God's good news is active in a real way in your life *today*, not just some day in the future?

Day 4: Read Colossians 1:1-4.

This letter begins with giving thanks for faith and love shared through the young church.
In what ways are you thankful for faith and love expressed through the church today?

Day 5: Read Colossians 1:5-6.

The letter says the Gospel (aka good news) is "bearing fruit and growing." (NIV)
Where have you seen even a small sign of growth or fruit from God in your life?

Day 6: Read Romans 1:16-17.

Paul says the Gospel is the power of God for salvation.
Do you tend to think of the Gospel as information or transformation? Why?

Good news meets us where we are, takes root in our lives, and invites us into something deeper. Our invitation is simple: see it, live it, and share it.

The gospel is good news because it speaks to real life.

GOOD NEWS YOU CAN SEE

Isaiah 58:6–12, Matthew 5:13–16

People encounter good news through generosity, hospitality, compassion, and shared life. Good news is justice made real, and hope made tangible. It doesn't require perfection; only love that shows up. And good news spreads when people don't just speak, but act on God's call for justice. Scripture doesn't separate worship from action. Isaiah insists that true faith and devotion is lived out by repairing what's broken, feeding the hungry, and caring for those pushed to the margins.

Day 1: Read Matthew 5:13–14

Jesus says, "You are the salt of the earth...You are the light of the world." (NIV)
Where has God placed you to "show" good news through your presence?

Day 2: Read Matthew 5:15–16.

Jesus says to let your light shine so others may see and glorify God.
What is one simple act you could offer this week to encourage others to see God's goodness and glorify God?

Day 3: Read Isaiah 58:6-7.

Isaiah says that true worship frees people, feeds people, and clothes people.
How could you share good news this week by lessening someone's burden?

Day 4: Read Isaiah 58:8-10.

Isaiah teaches you'll sense God's presence when you "spend yourselves" on behalf of others. (NIV)
How have you experienced God's presence when giving of yourself for someone else?

Day 5: Read Isaiah 58:11-12.

Isaiah invites God's people to see themselves as "repairers" and "restorers". (NIV)
Where might God be calling you to be a "repairer" or "restorer"?

Day 6: Read James 2:14-18.

The Book of James says, "I will show you my faith by my deeds." (NIV)
Where might God be calling you to move from belief to action?

When people stand against injustice and choose compassion, God's good news becomes something others can actually see.

When love and justice are lived, good news becomes visible.

GOOD NEWS FOR EVERYONE

Luke 15:1-10; Isaiah 40:27-31

The world has a habit of limiting good news to those who win, succeed, or stay in control. But Jesus tells a different story. In God's kingdom, good news is for everyone, and especially for those who feel far away, overlooked, weary, or unworthy.

Day 1: Read Luke 15:1-2.

Jesus welcomes those others reject.

When have you felt judged or excluded? How does Jesus speak to that experience?

Day 2: Read Luke 15:4-7.

In response to the Pharisees' judgment, Jesus shares a parable about a lost sheep.

What does it tell you about Jesus that He suggests leaving the ninety-nine to go after one?

Day 3: Read Luke 15:8-10.

Jesus shares what joy there is when one that is lost is found.

Who around you needs to experience this seeking, restoring love of God?

Day 4: Read Isaiah 40:27-28.

This passage begins with recognition that sometimes we feel like God doesn't see us.

Why do you think people begin to feel that their "way is hidden" from God?

Day 5: Read Isaiah 40:29-31.

Isaiah says God is the source of strength for the weak and weary.

What is the difference between pushing harder versus putting our hope in God as the source of our strength?

Day 6: Read Romans 5:6-8.

Paul says Christ died for us while we were still sinners, powerless.

What does it look like to receive God's grace instead of trying to earn it?

Good news is grace that never stops searching for the lost and strength offered to those who are exhausted and no longer expecting much from God. It doesn't come from trying harder or doing better. It comes from receiving a love that doesn't judge or condemn, a grace that isn't earned, but freely given.

Good news is grace that seeks, restores, and sustains everyone.

GOOD NEWS YOU CAN SHARE

John 9, 1 Peter 3:15–16

If the good news of Jesus truly matters, why does sharing it feel difficult, and why do we hesitate? Many people feel pressure to explain everything about God perfectly, and when they can't, they decide it's safer to say nothing at all. But Scripture tells a simpler story. Sharing faith doesn't begin with having all the answers; it begins with honesty. It starts by telling the truth about where we've seen God at work, in our lives, in our church, and in our world. So let's tell people.

Day 1: Read John 9:1-12.

Jesus brings healing where others want to talk about blame.

Where have you seen God bring healing and sight into a difficult situation?

Day 2: Read John 9:13-23.

The conversation that follows the healing is filled with judgment and discomfort instead of joy and celebration.

What discomfort or fears hold you back from more fully sharing your story of knowing the love of Jesus in your life?

Day 3: Read John 9:24-34.

As the questioning continues, the man says honestly, "I was blind but now I see."

What is your version of this sentence, your simple story of what God has done in your life?

Day 4: Read John 9:35-41.

Jesus not only heals, but seeks out the man with an invitation to see even more clearly.

Where might Jesus be inviting you to see more clearly, or help others to see?

Day 5: Read 1 Peter 3:15-16.

1 Peter 3 says to be ready to share the reason for the hope you have.

How can you share your faith in a way that feels natural and real?

Day 6: Read Psalm 107:1-9.

The Psalmist encourages us to share our story of how God has been at work in us.

Who might need to hear even a small part of your faith story this week?

Our stories may be unfinished and imperfect, even messy, but they can still be powerful witnesses of the hope and love that comes from Jesus.

You don't have to have all the answers to share what God is doing.