

THE GOSPEL VISUAL

Start with the Gospel · Participant Handout · 1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-11

Gospel Visual: _____

Draw along as your leader teaches the gospel illustration. Use the space below to draw the visual and the notes section to capture anything that stands out to you.

Notes

THE GOSPEL VISUAL

Start with the Gospel · Small Group Follow-Up · 1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-11

FOCUS

1. Where do you feel like you are in the gospel illustration right now? Explain.
2. On a scale of 1-10 (10 being most confident), how confident are you that you could share the gospel message with someone today? Why?

BIBLICAL CONTEXT

1 Corinthians is a New Testament letter written by the apostle Paul to the church in the city of Corinth — a wealthy, culturally diverse, and morally complex city in ancient Greece. The church there was struggling with division, immorality, and confusion about some of the most fundamental truths of the Christian faith. By the time Paul reaches chapter 15, he is addressing a serious problem: some people in the church were actually denying that the resurrection of Jesus had happened. Paul writes this section not to introduce something new, but to remind them of what they had already received — the gospel. He makes clear that the resurrection is not a minor detail. It is the foundation on which everything else stands. Without it, faith is empty and hope is lost. With it, everything changes.

STUDY

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-11

1. Look at verses 1-2. Paul uses four distinct words to describe the gospel's role — it is preached, received, something we stand in, and something that is saving us. What does that tell you about the gospel? Is it only relevant at the moment of salvation, or does it continue to matter after that?
2. Paul says he is reminding them of the gospel they already received. Why do you think believers need to be reminded of the gospel — not just told it once?
3. Paul says you are saved “if you hold fast” to the gospel. This is not a works-based condition but a description of what genuine faith looks like over time — it perseveres. What does this tell you about the difference between a faith that is truly rooted in the gospel and one that is not?
4. How does Paul define the gospel in verses 3-4? There are a lot of details you could teach someone about the gospel, but why do you think he chose to focus on these three main elements?
5. Paul says Christ died “for our sins.” What does that phrase tell you about the reality of sin and separation from God — and our need for Jesus to rescue us?

- 6. Paul makes clear that Jesus didn't simply suffer — He truly died and was buried. Why is that detail important? And if Jesus had died but never risen, what would that mean for the gospel and for our faith?**
- 7. Paul lists multiple witnesses who saw the risen Jesus. Why do you think he makes such a point of establishing eyewitness evidence?**
- 8. Paul says God made us alive together with Christ even when we were dead in our sins. What does it mean to you personally that God acted first — before you did anything to deserve it?**
- 9. Paul repeats the phrase “in accordance with the Scriptures” twice in verses 3 and 4. Why do you think he emphasizes that the death and resurrection of Jesus were foretold in Scripture? What does that tell you about how much God loves you and the plan He has had for you all along?**
- 10. Paul describes himself as the “least of the apostles” — someone who actively persecuted the church before encountering the risen Jesus. What does his transformation reveal about what the gospel is capable of doing in a person's life? How does his testimony reflect what it looks like to trust Jesus, grow in faith, and go tell others?**

APPLY

- 1. Looking back at the gospel visual you drew at the beginning — where do you see the story of this passage reflected in that illustration?**
- 2. Think back to where you said you were in the gospel illustration at the beginning. Where do you want to be — and based on what you read today, what does getting there require of you?**
- 3. Paul's life was completely transformed by an encounter with the risen Jesus. What is one way you can grow deeper in your relationship with Jesus this week — and one person in your life who needs to hear what you discussed today?**

REFLECT & CONNECT

The gospel is not complicated — but it is everything. Christ died for our sins, was buried, and rose again on the third day. That is the message Paul delivered, the message the early church staked their lives on, and the message that is just as true and just as urgent today. It is not just information to know — it is a reality to respond to. This week, take one honest step toward where you want to be. If you have never responded to the gospel, today is the day. If you have, find someone this week who needs to hear what you just read — and tell them.