

# An Awesome TALLGRASS Church

2020-03-01 by Ben Deaver at Tallgrass Church on Acts 2:42-27

**Mingle Question:** What's your favorite restaurant and why?

Restaurant Analogy: Menu-browser, Regular, Co-owner

Have you ever just checked out a restaurant's menu and then moved on? Sometimes you go ahead and put your name on the wait list, right? Maybe you find a restaurant that you go to every once in awhile, maybe on special occasions like your birthday or anniversary.

Then over time you start frequenting that restaurant a bit more. Maybe you even start telling friends and family about it. You find your favorite dish. You check out their specials. You begin to know the staff. You write a Google Review. You share posts on Facebook. Maybe you even become a Top Fan on Facebook.

Eventually you're a full-blown "regular". You're on a first name basis with the ownership. You've met the owners kids. They just head straight into the kitchen. Eventually, you're invited back into the kitchen too! They start getting your feedback on the menu and the overall experience. In fact, you get a job at this restaurant, not necessarily because you need the money as much as you love the restaurant and love the joy the food brings to people far and wide. Eventually, you're invited to buy in to the restaurant so now you have actual co-ownership in the place...and you couldn't be more proud of what you offer the community.

You look out the window and you see someone browsing the menu and you think, "I remember the first time I browsed the menu. I better go talk to that lady so she doesn't miss out on this amazing place!"

In many ways, Acts is about the people of the world browsing the menu and eventually owning the place.

- How do you move people from casual glances at the menu to taking ownership of the place?
- What makes for a place that you would even want to eat at, let alone have ownership in?

**the acts of Jesus continued...**

## Review

- The book of Acts is all about the acts that Jesus began to do in the Gospel of Luke continuing through the early church.
- Introduction
- Next Man Up
- Earth, Wind, and Fire
- Everything Changes
- An Awesome Church

**Elder Meeting PICTURE**

**Read Acts 2:41; Acts 2:42-47**

**PRAY!!!**

## Pop Quiz:

1. What kind of church do these six verses describe? AWESOME!
2. What were these people devoting themselves to that made it so AWESOME? L.I.F.E.

Acts covers 30 years over 28 chapters from 30-60 AD or so. That's a year and just under a month per chapter. That's 1960 years ago when Paul is under house arrest in Acts 28. If we were to still have church history written at the same rate that the chapters in Acts covered, about 1.07 years per chapter that would put us at Acts chapter 1839 in eight years, when our church plant hits the 10-year mark, if my calculations are correct.

## Acts 1839:42-47 Contextualized/Paraphrased to Tallgrass Church

<sup>42</sup>We devoted ourselves to the Scriptures and to our church family, to eating meals together including the Lord's Supper and to praying with and for one another diligently. <sup>43</sup>We prayed for God to do amazing things in our own hearts and in the neighborhoods we were in. And guess what, He did! Every single person who was a part of the Tallgrass family was amazed by what God was doing.

<sup>44</sup>Many awesome things happened through every one of the followers of Jesus who called Tallgrass Church home. We were in it together; through joys and sorrows, anxiety and depression, life and death, sickness and health, great times and difficult times. We met one another's needs. <sup>45</sup>We were meeting together in some way, whether at Central Gathering, at LIFE Group, one-on-one discipleship, serving alongside one another in the community, or just going for a run or hunting or doing yoga together, just about every day of the week.

<sup>46</sup>We ate together all the time with happy and generous hearts. We knew how to give to and receive from one another in a way that built up our community with the love of Jesus. We worshiped God through singing together and then through living out the Gospel throughout each week. <sup>47</sup>We had great rapport with all of Manhattan, KS and the surrounding communities. People were curious about our community. And Jesus added to the Tallgrass family every day, men and women and boys and girls of all sorts of backgrounds, to those who were in relationship with Him and who called Tallgrass their church family.

## The Ache

What do you ache for in life? What's the ache for our folks connected to this?

- Abundant life? Longing for more meaning? Less depression, anxiety, and exhaustion?
- Serving others?
- Why would people want to move from menu-browsing to becoming a regular at our church? Why would people want to move from being a regular to becoming a cook or waiting tables? Why would someone want to move from working here to really taking ownership of the mission and vision of our church?

Back then and there to here and now!

- Mission Statement: Because God first loved us, we exist to love God and love our neighbors.
- God loves us. Therefore, love God. Love others.

## Maturity for All

<sup>41</sup>So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

<sup>42</sup>And **THEY** (*ALL 3120ish people*) devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. <sup>43</sup>And awe came upon **EVERY** soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. <sup>44</sup>And **ALL** who believed were together and had all things in common. <sup>45</sup>And **THEY** (*ALL 3120ish people*) were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to **ALL**, as **ANY** had need. <sup>46</sup>And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, **THEY** (*ALL 3120ish people*) received their food with glad and generous hearts, <sup>47</sup>praising God and having favor with **ALL** the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

## The Great Commission

- **Matthew 28:19-20** <sup>18</sup>And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>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, <sup>20</sup>teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”
  - This is for ALL NATIONS of the earth!
- **Colossians 1:28-29** <sup>28</sup>Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. <sup>29</sup>For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.
  - This is for EVERY INDIVIDUAL in ALL NATIONS of the earth!
- We need help crafting a Vision Statement sometime.
- Our vision, what we want to accomplish, has to be related to the maturity of all who step through the doors into our church family.
  - Moving people from the fringe into the family to become (mature) followers of Jesus!
  - Concentric circles--core, committed, congregation, community, city, county country, continent, cosmos

## Restaurant Analogy

- Devoted to L.I.F.E. How do we get there together? This is what Tallgrass Church is about!
- The abundant life starts with new life in Christ, not when we die!
- Three broad categories with mini-steps in between each:
  - Menu-browser
  - Regular
  - Co-owner
- Strategy: Create environments where participants are encouraged and equipped to engage with increasing devotion to L.I.F.E.!
- The local church is where we grow to maturity through living out the just about 60 “one anothers” in the New Testament.
- ***The “One Anothers” resource***
- Neighboring within our church family often can lead to others checking out our church.
  - Paxton and Judy LeMoine’s recent drywall party—Dilan Oglesby brought a friend. This was his friend’s first entry point to our church family...serving together!
  - The Tallgrass Church Moving Crew—Mike and Lacey Dunn’s recent move
  - The Tallgrass Church AutoCare Ministry

## Menu-browsers: Where we expect GUESTS

- Website
- First-time visit
- On the fringe
- There are some events that function in this way, men’s get togethers like ManCamp (where we didn’t camp) last semester and ladies’ get togethers like the recent Galentine’s Dinner.
- But we’re primarily leaning on you all to be people’s initial exposure to our church family in your neighborhoods.
- We may need to create more environments for people to just checkout our community but we are leaning heavily on the Tallgrass family being ambassadors for our church.
- If you ever find the perfect church don’t join it because you’ll mess it up!
- One of the most beautiful things about a healthy church is when Jesus is the uniting factor, not age or race or worship preferences, etc. But Jesus and HIS GOSPEL and HIS KINGDOM!

**Great couple questions to ask your neighbors:**

- What brings you to Manhattan (or Wamego)?
- Do you have a faith community you're involved in?
- Let me know if I can help your transition into our community in any way.

**Regulars:** People start to connect as friends

- Central Gathering
- Start coming around a LIFE Group
- Start telling friends and family about your new church.
- Maybe you put a sticker on your water bottle and/or your car.

**Great couple questions to ask folks beginning to come around:**

- How can I help you get connected with our community?
- The first lunch or coffee with Ben or Dave is on Tallgrass Church! Ask them questions, get to know them and our church. And if you're a woman, you can meet with them together or they'll connect you with a woman in the church to get together with.

**Co-owners:** Life for our family happens in the kitchen

- this is our ultimate small group environment
- that is where life happens
- in the foyer you feel like a guest
- in the living room you start to make connections
- in the kitchen community with insiders happens
- We want everyone at the kitchen table
- You're invited to the company Christmas party.
- You get the end-of-year review.
- You help shape the menu and craft the environment of the space.
- We want to help everyone move towards becoming co-owners.
- The cool thing is, we can develop more restaurants as we grow. This is called church planting. Starts small, with one-on-one discipleship. Then gets a little bigger with LIFE Group multiplication. Eventually, we want to grow a good thing, and then offer it to more people out there who are starving for so many things, meaningful relationships with people and with God, engagement with the Scriptures (which is an acquired taste).

**Great couple questions to ask folks who are regulars:**

- What are you passionate about?
- What are some hindrances to you taking the next step of leadership?
- How would you like to serve in our community?
  - Maddox, Benji, Sammy and friends putting up the Bibles and notepads.
  - Audra Pearson helping with Sprouts.
  - Jim and Annie Eschke and the Coffee Bar
  - TGY—Tallgrass Youth
  - Sprouts volunteers
  - Sound and vid people
  - Tallgrass Music
  - Maybe there's a way to serve that we're not even aware of! Let's chat.
  - Bringing gifts and creativity
  - Disciple makers
  - LIFE Group leaders

## Devoted to LIFE

### Learning Biblical Truth—More next week!

#### Intercession (prayer)

- Tallgrass Prayer—Send us your requests. Skype in. FaceTime in. South Africa and Dayton, OH
  - How can we meet YOU where YOU'RE at with prayer?
  - Send your spouse!
- March 28<sup>th</sup> at the Oglesby's at 10:30am—Result of our recent poll on GroupMe.
- Join us on Sundays at 3:30pm before Central Gathering.
- Ron's prayer blog idea!
- MORE ABOUT WHY PRAYER!!! GRAB THEIR ACHE! WHAT DO YOU ACHE FOR?!?!?!?

#### Fellowship

#### Extending LIFE to Others

Communication is so difficult between individuals and for entire organizations! Who can tell us what our current methods of communication are and how each are used? Or at least share about one.

- Weekly email
- Website
- Facebook Page and Facebook Group
- Instagram
- Podcasts—iTunes and Google
- GroupMes
- Slack Channels
- Tallgrass Directory—Helps put names with faces.

#### Extending LIFE to Others through Neighboring—Pull up website.

Let's click on [tallgrass.church](http://tallgrass.church).

#### **50 Neighboring Ideas resource**

*Assistance Information in Manhattan, KS on our website under Resources and Assistance.*

#### Neighboring Fund

- 2.5% goes to our Neighboring Fund—Currently has \$3300!
- Adoption Fund has about \$13,000!
- Ricky says, "Our Neighboring Fund is growing which means you ain't using it!"
  - We generally approve a minimum of \$50 per neighboring need and then utilize our means of communication to rally others around the need.
- We're not looking to focus all of our church efforts on one specific organization's missions in our community at this time. Rather, we want to come alongside ONE ANOTHER as we are involved in our neighbor's lives or as we have organizations we're passionate about.
  - Bill Bickmeir and Laura Wallace and possibly Carrie Fratecelli—Helping International Students
  - Life Choice Ministries—\$200 for Walk for Life

- Royal Family Kids—David Renberg’s company Foundation Realty supports them; summer camp experience for foster kids; non-denominational organization but connected to Assemblies of God
- Hope for the Holidays—Dave Geldart
- Working Men of Christ—Ben Deaver
- Faith RXD
- Others:
  - The Homestead
  - Habitat for Humanity
  - Relate 360

These are just local organizations! Does it feel like there are too many possibilities? Does it feel a bit overwhelming? That’s ok.

- God is up to so much in our community. We each have a role to play. You need to be in constant communication with the Spirit to know how He wants you to spend your time advancing the Kingdom of God in and through our community.
- Traditional Model vs. New Testament Model
  - Communication is so important!
- When you get excited about a new initiative adjust your expectations and be thankful for those who do come alongside you, and then grow as a leader from there.

### Applications:

1. Tallgrass can be an awesome church.
2. We need to grow in three key areas: gathering centrally, corporate prayer, and discipleship.
3. Get plugged deeply into a LIFE Group!

Move from menu-browser to regular to co-owner!

### Reflection Questions:

1. Are you a menu-browser, a regular, a regular, or co-owner of this place? What helped you get to here with Tallgrass Church? What’s your next step into the Tallgrass Church family?
2. How might you use \$50 of the Tallgrass Neighboring Fund?
3. What non-profit or organization in our area are you excited about (if any)?
4. Who are three people who God may want to use you to bring to Tallgrass Church? What might be your first step with them?

**To take these steps towards meaningful connection with our church family we’ll need to grow individually. Next week we’ll focus on spiritual disciplines. It’ll be practical and potentially impact-i-ful (impactful). New word!**

**PRAY!**

**Q&R&Testimonies?!?!**

**Back to the restaurant/home analogy!**

**FINISH BY 5:00pm!!!**

# The Chopping Block:

## Sermon Rehearsal Feedback:

- MORE STORIES
- Different pastors talking about how they got more engagement from their folks when speaking to their ache.
  - Preach to the ache!
- Every culture has three buckets—to get connection and meaning we'll need to give up some freedom
  - Freedom—We have so much freedom.
  - Connection—We have little connection.
  - Meaning—We have no meaning.
- *What's This Life For?* By Creed
- Land more on foyer, living room, kitchen.
  - Caricature of people in each of these spaces.
  - Porch? Welcome mat? Patio? Doorway?
  - More description about each for our church context.
- Move from this step to this step. Vision for YOUR PROGRESS into the heart of our home. Craft everything with YOU NEED!!!
  - Elder Team
  - Staff Team
  - Servant Leadership Team
- Tallgrass family is the foyer?!?!?!?!?
- Have to explain Mission Statement and Vision Statement.
- Acts 14:32-43—Explain it.
- Quiz people on the four things that characterized an awesome church.
- Why are we reading this again?

## Notes:

Andy Stanley, *From Foyer to Kitchen*

- We believe the local church should be irresistible—children and parents should wake up on Sunday morning and say, “We want to go to church.”
- We believe people who are NOT believers YET should be able to attend on Sunday morning, and want to go back the next week and check it out
  - in the Gospels, Jesus was irresistible
  - he wasn't someone you could ignore or marginalize
  - the Church is the Body of Christ
  - our local church and yours should reflect that same thing in society
- Story of explaining in Atlanta, GA—we need more relevant environments where believers and non-believers can connect to each other and connect to our heavenly Father
- This drove us to start [Northpoint Community Church](#)
  - started with 6 staff
  - hammered out mission statement: “Lead people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ”
  - that was our version of saying the “Great Commission”
  - 3 components or pursuits:
    - 1 pursue intimacy with God
    - 2 community with insiders / believers
    - 3 influence with others outside the faith
- Generally discipleship or spiritual growth has been relegated to a series of classes— it meant “how much Bible do you know” (verses)

- Our goal for people wasn't an amount of knowledge or number of classes you'd attended, but the degree to which people are engaged in these 3 pursuits
- Our strategy recognized we can't MAKE someone do any of these things
- All of us in the group who valued these three pursuits realized we developed those passions and routines was ENVIRONMENT—relevant environment
- We decided if we created those environments, trained people to lead in those environments, and ...
- Mission: Lead People  
Strategy: Creating environments where participants are encouraged and equipped to [engage in those 3 pursuits]
- We named the 3 environments for rooms in the house:
  - 1- Foyer
  - 2- Living Room
  - 3- Kitchen
- These environments do three different things
- Foyer environment: Where we expect GUESTS
- When guests are in your home, things are different: There are things you DO talk about, and things you don't
  - you change who you are as a family or what you believe, but you tailor the environment for the guest so they feel welcome and want to come back
  - we decided we needed to create some safe "foyer" environments to help guests feel welcome
- Living Room environment: people start to connect as friends
  - middle circle (we found) is the most difficult/challenging
  - everyone talks about getting people into small groups
  - we have constantly updated the transition part in the living room
- Kitchen environment: Life for our family happens in the kitchen
  - this is our ultimate small group environment
  - that is where life happens
  - in the foyer you feel like a guest
  - in the living room you start to make connections
  - in the kitchen community with insiders happens
- We want everyone at the kitchen table
- For adults we have 3 kinds of small groups: (that's the only one that meets on Sunday mornings at our church)
  - 1- starting point small groups: open group
  - 2- starter groups: we call it "dating" – it lasts 6 weeks, gives people a taste of group life, if they want to move on together they can – targeted group
  - 3- community groups: meet for 12 to 18 months, then they reform (they are closed groups)
- We've discovered community doesn't happen in an unpredictable environment—life on life doesn't happen in an environment where trust is uncertain
- Every small group comes to an end: either a happy end or a small end
  - people may go forward and multiple
  - people may decide they never want to be in another group
- Life happens within the church when we are focused together
- Our focus to evaluate all new PROGRAMS: Does this help us move people from the foyer, to the living room, to the kitchen?
  - we try to "add steps, not programs"
  - need to fill in gaps, help people move toward growth...
- "Your church strategy is perfectly designed to get the results you're getting"—so if you want to see change, to become an irresistible church, then discover what your strategy is and change it so you can talk about it intelligently so people understand what you are doing and how you do it
- Question: Are your ENVIRONMENTS accomplishing the mission?
- 3 takeaways:



- Would you go home and spend time clarifying your purpose / mission? What is the WIN we are wanting to celebrate?
- Would you go home and think through what it would take to develop a strategy? Can you put it in terms you can explain to your people? (This creates amazing synergy)
- Focus your environments—“Everybody wants to give their time and energy to something they understand” (you need to clarify your strategy w different terms)

## Passages:

## Gospel

### Pre-Christian Uses of “Gospel”

- <https://glenandpaula.com/wordpress/archives/2010/02/25/pre-christian-uses-of-gospel>
- Homer, *The Odyssey* (8<sup>th</sup> Century BC)
- Xenophon (4<sup>th</sup> century BC)
- Isocrates, Areopagiticus (4<sup>th</sup> Century BC) section 10
- Aeschines (4<sup>th</sup> Century BC) Against Ctesiphon section 160
- Aristophanes (5<sup>th</sup> Century BC)
- Plutarch (1<sup>st</sup> Century AD)
- Josephus (1<sup>st</sup> Century AD)
- The Priene Inscription (9 BC)
- Cicero (1<sup>st</sup> Century BC)
- Diodorus Siculus (1<sup>st</sup> Century BC) – Library 15.74
- The Septuagint (LXX) (2<sup>nd</sup> Century BC) – 2 Samuel 4:10

### “Gospel” in the New Testament

#### Matthew 4:23

[ *Jesus Ministers to Great Crowds* ] And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the **gospel** of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### Matthew 9:35

[ *The Harvest Is Plentiful, the Laborers Few* ] And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the **gospel** of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### Matthew 24:14

And this **gospel** of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### Matthew 26:13

Truly, I say to you, wherever this **gospel** is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will also be told in memory of her.”

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### Mark 1:1

[ *John the Baptist Prepares the Way* ] The beginning of the **gospel** of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### Mark 1:14

[ *Jesus Begins His Ministry* ] Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the **gospel** of God,

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### Mark 1:15

and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the **gospel**.”

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

**Mark 8:35**

For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the **gospel's** will save it.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

**Mark 10:29**

Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the **gospel**,

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

**Mark 13:10**

And the **gospel** must first be proclaimed to all nations.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

**Mark 14:9**

And truly, I say to you, wherever the **gospel** is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in memory of her."

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

**Mark 16:15**

And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the **gospel** to the whole creation.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

**Luke 9:6**

And they departed and went through the villages, preaching the **gospel** and healing everywhere.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

**Luke 20:1**

[ *The Authority of Jesus Challenged* ] One day, as Jesus was teaching the people in the temple and preaching the **gospel**, the chief priests and the scribes with the elders came up

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

**Acts 8:25**

Now when they had testified and spoken the word of the Lord, they returned to Jerusalem, preaching the **gospel** to many villages of the Samaritans.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

**Acts 8:40**

But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the **gospel** to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

**Acts 14:7**

and there they continued to preach the **gospel**.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

**Acts 14:21**

When they had preached the **gospel** to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch,

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

**Acts 15:7**

And after there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, "Brothers, you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that by my mouth the Gentiles should hear the word of the **gospel** and believe.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

**Acts 16:10**

And when Paul had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go on into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the **gospel** to them.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

**Acts 20:24**

But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the **gospel** of the grace of God.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **Romans 1:1**

[ *Greeting* ] Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the **gospel** of God,

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **Romans 1:9**

For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the **gospel** of his Son, that without ceasing I mention you

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **Romans 1:15**

So I am eager to preach the **gospel** to you also who are in Rome.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **Romans 1:16**

[ *The Righteous Shall Live by Faith* ] For I am not ashamed of the **gospel**, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **Romans 2:16**

on that day when, according to my **gospel**, God judges the secrets of men by Christ Jesus.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **Romans 10:16**

But they have not all obeyed the **gospel**. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?”

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **Romans 11:28**

As regards the **gospel**, they are enemies for your sake. But as regards election, they are beloved for the sake of their forefathers.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **Romans 15:16**

to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles in the priestly service of the **gospel** of God, so that the offering of the Gentiles may be acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **Romans 15:19**

by the power of signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God—so that from Jerusalem and all the way around to Illyricum I have fulfilled the ministry of the **gospel** of Christ;

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **Romans 15:20**

and thus I make it my ambition to preach the **gospel**, not where Christ has already been named, lest I build on someone else's foundation,

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **Romans 16:25**

[ *Doxology* ] Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my **gospel** and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **1 Corinthians 1:17**

For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the **gospel**, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **1 Corinthians 4:15**

For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the **gospel**.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **1 Corinthians 9:12**

If others share this rightful claim on you, do not we even more? Nevertheless, we have not made use of this right, but we endure anything rather than put an obstacle in the way of the **gospel** of Christ.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **1 Corinthians 9:14**

In the same way, the Lord commanded that those who proclaim the **gospel** should get their living by the **gospel**.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **1 Corinthians 9:16**

For if I preach the **gospel**, that gives me no ground for boasting. For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the **gospel**!

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **1 Corinthians 9:18**

What then is my reward? That in my preaching I may present the **gospel** free of charge, so as not to make full use of my right in the **gospel**.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **1 Corinthians 9:23**

I do it all for the sake of the **gospel**, that I may share with them in its blessings.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **1 Corinthians 15:1**

[ *The Resurrection of Christ* ] Now I would remind you, brothers, of the **gospel** I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand,

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **2 Corinthians 2:12**

[ *Triumph in Christ* ] When I came to Troas to preach the **gospel** of Christ, even though a door was opened for me in the Lord,

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **2 Corinthians 4:1**

[ *The Light of the Gospel* ] Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **2 Corinthians 4:3**

And even if our **gospel** is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **2 Corinthians 4:4**

In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the **gospel** of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **2 Corinthians 8:18**

With him we are sending the brother who is famous among all the churches for his preaching of the **gospel**.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **2 Corinthians 9:13**

By their approval of this service, they will glorify God because of your submission that comes from your confession of the **gospel** of Christ, and the generosity of your contribution for them and for all others,

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **2 Corinthians 10:14**

For we are not overextending ourselves, as though we did not reach you. For we were the first to come all the way to you with the **gospel** of Christ.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **2 Corinthians 10:16**

so that we may preach the **gospel** in lands beyond you, without boasting of work already done in another's area of influence.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **2 Corinthians 11:4**

For if someone comes and proclaims another Jesus than the one we proclaimed, or if you receive a different spirit from the one you received, or if you accept a different **gospel** from the one you accepted, you put up with it readily enough.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

### **2 Corinthians 11:7**

Or did I commit a sin in humbling myself so that you might be exalted, because I preached God's **gospel** to you free of charge?

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

### **Galatians 1:6**

[ *No Other Gospel* ] I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different **gospel**—

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

### **Galatians 1:7**

not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the **gospel** of Christ.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

### **Galatians 1:8**

But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a **gospel** contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

### **Galatians 1:9**

As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a **gospel** contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

### **Galatians 1:11**

[ *Paul Called by God* ] For I would have you know, brothers, that the **gospel** that was preached by me is not man's **gospel**.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

### **Galatians 2:2**

I went up because of a revelation and set before them (though privately before those who seemed influential) the **gospel** that I proclaim among the Gentiles, in order to make sure I was not running or had not run in vain.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

### **Galatians 2:5**

to them we did not yield in submission even for a moment, so that the truth of the **gospel** might be preserved for you.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

### **Galatians 2:7**

On the contrary, when they saw that I had been entrusted with the **gospel** to the uncircumcised, just as Peter had been entrusted with the **gospel** to the circumcised

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

### **Galatians 2:14**

But when I saw that their conduct was not in step with the truth of the **gospel**, I said to Cephas before them all, "If you, though a Jew, live like a Gentile and not like a Jew, how can you force the Gentiles to live like Jews?"

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

### **Galatians 3:8**

And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the **gospel** beforehand to Abraham, saying, "In you shall all the nations be blessed."

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

### **Galatians 4:13**

You know it was because of a bodily ailment that I preached the **gospel** to you at first,

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

### **Ephesians 1:13**

In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the **gospel** of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit,

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **Ephesians 3:1**

[ *The Mystery of the **Gospel Revealed*** ] For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles—

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **Ephesians 3:6**

This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the **gospel**.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **Ephesians 3:7**

Of this **gospel** I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **Ephesians 6:15**

and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the **gospel** of peace.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **Ephesians 6:19**

and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the **gospel**,

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **Philippians 1:5**

because of your partnership in the **gospel** from the first day until now.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **Philippians 1:7**

It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the **gospel**.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **Philippians 1:12**

[ *The Advance of the **Gospel*** ] I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the **gospel**,

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **Philippians 1:16**

The latter do it out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the **gospel**.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **Philippians 1:27**

Only let your manner of life be worthy of the **gospel** of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the **gospel**,

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **Philippians 2:22**

But you know Timothy's proven worth, how as a son with a father he has served with me in the **gospel**.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **Philippians 4:3**

Yes, I ask you also, true companion, help these women, who have labored side by side with me in the **gospel** together with Clement and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

#### **Philippians 4:15**

And you Philippians yourselves know that in the beginning of the **gospel**, when I left Macedonia, no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving, except you only.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

**Colossians 1:5**

because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the **gospel**,

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

**Colossians 1:23**

if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the **gospel** that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

**1 Thessalonians 1:5**

because our **gospel** came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

**1 Thessalonians 2:2**

But though we had already suffered and been shamefully treated at Philippi, as you know, we had boldness in our God to declare to you the **gospel** of God in the midst of much conflict.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

**1 Thessalonians 2:4**

but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the **gospel**, so we speak, not to please man, but to please God who tests our hearts.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

**1 Thessalonians 2:8**

So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the **gospel** of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

**1 Thessalonians 2:9**

For you remember, brothers, our labor and toil: we worked night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, while we proclaimed to you the **gospel** of God.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

**1 Thessalonians 3:2**

and we sent Timothy, our brother and God's coworker in the **gospel** of Christ, to establish and exhort you in your faith,

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

**2 Thessalonians 1:8**

in flaming fire, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God and on those who do not obey the **gospel** of our Lord Jesus.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

**2 Thessalonians 2:14**

To this he called you through our **gospel**, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

**1 Timothy 1:11**

in accordance with the **gospel** of the glory of the blessed God with which I have been entrusted.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

**2 Timothy 1:8**

Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the **gospel** by the power of God,

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

**2 Timothy 1:10**

and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the **gospel**,

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

**2 Timothy 2:8**

Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my **gospel**,

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

**Philemon 1:13**

I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the **gospel**,

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

**1 Peter 4:6**

For this is why the **gospel** was preached even to those who are dead, that though judged in the flesh the way people are, they might live in the spirit the way God does.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

**1 Peter 4:17**

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 the **gospel** of God?

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

**Revelation 14:6**

[ *The Messages of the Three Angels* ] Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal **gospel** to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people.

In Context | Full Chapter | Other Translations

## Holy Spirit

- **Luke 1:15** for he will be great before the Lord. And he must not drink wine or strong drink, and he will be filled with the **Holy Spirit**, even from his mother's womb.
- **Luke 1:35** And the angel answered her, "The **Holy Spirit** will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called **holy**—the Son of God.
- **Luke 1:41** And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the **Holy Spirit**,
- **Luke 1:67** [ *Zechariah's Prophecy* ] And his father Zechariah was filled with the **Holy Spirit** and prophesied, saying,
- **Luke 2:25** Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the **Holy Spirit** was upon him.
- **Luke 2:26** And it had been revealed to him by the **Holy Spirit** that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ.
- **Luke 3:16** John answered them all, saying, "I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the **Holy Spirit** and fire.
- **Luke 3:22** and the **Holy Spirit** descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."
- **Luke 4:1** [ *The Temptation of Jesus* ] And Jesus, full of the **Holy Spirit**, returned from the Jordan and was led by the **Spirit** in the wilderness
- **Luke 10:21** [ *Jesus Rejoices in the Father's Will* ] In that same hour he rejoiced in the **Holy Spirit** and said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.
- **Luke 11:13** If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the **Holy Spirit** to those who ask him!"
- **Luke 12:10** And everyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but the one who blasphemes against the **Holy Spirit** will not be forgiven.
- **Luke 12:12** for the **Holy Spirit** will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say."
- **Acts 1:1** [ *The Promise of the Holy Spirit* ] In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach,
- **Acts 1:2** until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the **Holy Spirit** to the apostles whom he had chosen.



- **Acts 1:5** for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the **Holy Spirit** not many days from now.”
- **Acts 1:8** 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 1:16** “Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the **Holy Spirit** spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus.
- **Acts 2:1** [ *The Coming of the Holy Spirit* ] When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place.
- **Acts 2:4** And they were all filled with the **Holy Spirit** and began to speak in other tongues as the **Spirit** gave them utterance.
- **Acts 2:33** Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the **Holy Spirit**, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing.
- **Acts 2:38** And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the **Holy Spirit**.
- **Acts 4:8** Then Peter, filled with the **Holy Spirit**, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders,
- **Acts 4:25** who through the mouth of our father David, your servant, said by the **Holy Spirit**, ““Why did the Gentiles rage, and the peoples plot in vain?
- **Acts 4:31** And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the **Holy Spirit** and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.
- **Acts 5:3** But Peter said, “Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the **Holy Spirit** and to keep back for yourself part of the proceeds of the land?
- **Acts 5:32** And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the **Holy Spirit**, whom God has given to those who obey him.”
- **Acts 6:5** And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the **Holy Spirit**, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch.
- **Acts 7:51** “You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the **Holy Spirit**. As your fathers did, so do you.
- **Acts 7:55** But he, full of the **Holy Spirit**, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God.
- **Acts 8:15** who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the **Holy Spirit**,
- **Acts 8:17** Then they laid their hands on them and they received the **Holy Spirit**.
- **Acts 8:19** saying, “Give me this power also, so that anyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the **Holy Spirit**.”
- **Acts 9:17** So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the **Holy Spirit**.”
- **Acts 9:31** So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and was being built up. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the **Holy Spirit**, it multiplied.
- **Acts 10:38** how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the **Holy Spirit** and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.
- **Acts 10:44** [ *The Holy Spirit Falls on the Gentiles* ] While Peter was still saying these things, the **Holy Spirit** fell on all who heard the word.
- **Acts 10:45** And the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the **Holy Spirit** was poured out even on the Gentiles.
- **Acts 10:47** “Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the **Holy Spirit** just as we have?”
- **Acts 11:15** As I began to speak, the **Holy Spirit** fell on them just as on us at the beginning.
- **Acts 11:16** And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the **Holy Spirit**.’

- **Acts 11:24** for he was a good man, full of the **Holy Spirit** and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord.
- **Acts 13:2** While they were worshipping the Lord and fasting, the **Holy Spirit** said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."
- **Acts 13:4** [ *Barnabas and Saul on Cyprus* ] So, being sent out by the **Holy Spirit**, they went down to Seleucia, and from there they sailed to Cyprus.
- **Acts 13:9** But Saul, who was also called Paul, filled with the **Holy Spirit**, looked intently at him
- **Acts 13:52** And the disciples were filled with joy and with the **Holy Spirit**.
- **Acts 15:8** And God, who knows the heart, bore witness to them, by giving them the **Holy Spirit** just as he did to us,
- **Acts 15:28** For it has seemed good to the **Holy Spirit** and to us to lay on you no greater burden than these requirements:
- **Acts 16:6** [ *The Macedonian Call* ] And they went through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been forbidden by the **Holy Spirit** to speak the word in Asia.
- **Acts 19:2** And he said to them, "Did you receive the **Holy Spirit** when you believed?" And they said, "No, we have not even heard that there is a **Holy Spirit**."
- **Acts 19:6** And when Paul had laid his hands on them, the **Holy Spirit** came on them, and they began speaking in tongues and prophesying.
- **Acts 20:23** except that the **Holy Spirit** testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me.
- **Acts 20:28** 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 21:11** And coming to us, he took Paul's belt and bound his own feet and hands and said, "Thus says the **Holy Spirit**, 'This is how the Jews at Jerusalem will bind the man who owns this belt and deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.'"
- **Acts 28:25** And disagreeing among themselves, they departed after Paul had made one statement: "The **Holy Spirit** was right in saying to your fathers through Isaiah the prophet: