



## A Resource from St Nick's Church

St Nicholas Cole Abbey  
114 Queen Victoria Street  
London, EC4V 4BJ

© St Nicholas Cole Abbey Centre for Workplace Ministry 2018



---

## Table of Contents

<b>How to Use This Resource</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>A Gospel Outline</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>1. Our Great Need</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>2. Our Great Opportunity</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>3. Our Great Hope</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Your Mission Field - A Questionnaire</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>What Is a Gospel Outline?</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Why Use a Gospel Outline?</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>How to Use a Gospel Outline</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Reasons For This Gospel Outline</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Who We Are</b>	<b>20</b>

---

## How to Use This Resource

**We want to help you get the most out of this resource**

### **1. Key Objectives**

For every Christian to:

- know, understand and be able to clearly explain the gospel
- recognise why people's *greatest need* is the gospel
- see that *God alone* gives life and understanding
- see that God brings life through *hearing his word*
- be excited and equipped to speak the gospel

### **2. Key Ideas**

Above everything, try to:

- keep coming back to the gospel and, in particular, the cross
- avoid debates, apologetics, arguments and speak about Jesus
- enthuse people with God's Word
- excite people about the great opportunity that the *workplace* is to speak about Jesus and the gospel

## A Gospel Outline

<u><b>GOD</b></u>	<u><b>PEOPLE</b></u>	<u><b>JESUS</b></u>	<u><b>RESPONSE</b></u>
<p>God created the world and everything in the world</p> <p>He is the owner and loving ruler</p> <p><i>Revelation 4:11</i></p> <p>Clearly, the world isn't how it should be...</p>	<p>We all sin: reject God's rule, wanting to rule ourselves</p> <p>God punishes sin: death and judgement</p> <p><i>Romans 3:10-12</i> <i>Hebrews 9:27</i></p> <p>But God provided a free solution to our problem...</p>	<p>God's Son obeyed God completely</p> <p>His death took our punishment</p> <p>His resurrection proves we can be forgiven...</p> <p><i>1 Peter 1:3, 3:18</i></p> <p>...and that he will return to judge the world one day</p>	<p>Only two choices:</p> <p>i) <b>Our Way</b></p> <p>Reject God's rule</p> <p>→ Death and judgement</p> <p>ii) <b>God's New Way</b></p> <p>Submit to God's ruler, Jesus</p> <p>→ Forgiveness &amp; eternal life</p> <p><i>John 3:36</i></p> <p>...you must decide</p>

# 1. Our Great Need

## 1. What is the Gospel? (see 'A Gospel Outline' pg. 3)

<b>God</b>	<b>People</b>	<b>Jesus</b>	<b>Response</b>
Rev 4:11	Rom 3:10-12 Heb 9:27	1 Peter 3:18 1 Peter 1:3	John 3:36

*Note: Acts 2:38; 1 Cor 15:1-5; Acts 3:18-19; Acts 10:39-43*

## 2. Acts 10:34-43 ESV

<sup>34</sup> So Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup> but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup> As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), <sup>37</sup> you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: <sup>38</sup> 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. <sup>39</sup> And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, <sup>40</sup> but God raised him on the third day and caused him to appear, <sup>41</sup> not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup> And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup> To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

---

Who is the Gospel for?

Why do people need the Gospel?

How is the Gospel communicated?

### **3. Prayer**

Three colleagues I am praying for:

- 
- 
- 

### **4. Audio clip: Intentionality**

John Chapman: *"Every conversation is a potential opportunity for the gospel"*

## 2. Our Great Opportunity

### 1. Practice sharing the Gospel for 10 mins

<i>God</i>	<i>People</i>	<i>Jesus</i>	<i>Response</i>
<i>Rev 4:11</i>	<i>Rom 3:10-12</i> <i>Heb 9:27</i>	<i>1 Peter 3:18</i> <i>1 Peter 1:3</i>	<i>John 3:36</i>

### 2. 1 Peter 1:22 - 2:3

- I. What do we learn about God's word in these verses?
- II. How does that help us understand what Peter is asking his readers to do in 1 Peter 2:9-10 & 1 Peter 3:15-16?
- III. Think a little more about "being prepared to make a defence..." in next exercise

### 3. Answering difficult questions

Try to give answers that...

- I. ...lead to an opportunity to speak about the Gospel / Jesus, rather than an abstract philosophical debate (e.g. creation vs. evolution etc.).
- II. ...come from the Bible rather than from human reason. Only God's word stands forever.
- III. ...are gentle and respectful. Beware winning an intellectual victory but losing the person.



- 
1. How do you know that God exists?
  2. Why does God allow suffering?
  3. What about other religions?
  4. Aren't all good people Christians?
  5. I wish I had your faith!

#### **4. Prayer**

Three colleagues I am praying for

-

-

## 3. Our Great Hope

### 1. Practice sharing the Gospel for 10 mins

<b>God</b>	<b>People</b>	<b>Jesus</b>	<b>Response</b>
Rev 4:11	Rom 3:10-12 Heb 9:27	1 Peter 3:18 1 Peter 1:3	John 3:36

### 2. Understanding evangelism

#### 2 Corinthians 4:1-6 ESV

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. <sup>2</sup> But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God. <sup>3</sup> And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled only to those who are perishing. <sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. <sup>6</sup> For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

1. What is “our part” in this ministry?

- We should not....

- We should....

2. What are our colleagues like without the gospel? How does this help us?

-

3. What is “God’s part” in this ministry?

-

How do points 1 & 3 fit together?

### **3. If evangelism is going to happen—it must be intentional!**

John Chapman: *“Every conversation is a potential opportunity for the Gospel”*

- Why do we find it difficult to be intentional with the Gospel?
- How can we use office chat as a springboard for the Gospel?

What you did at the weekend

Brexit

Career ladder

Holidays

Metro

Family

### **4. Pray for three colleagues**





## What Is a Gospel Outline?

**Put simply, a Gospel Outline is:**

**the message at the heart of the Christian faith**

The Gospel could be summarised in many ways. In fact, we believe that wherever you open the Bible you should be able to see a glimpse of the Gospel—even in Leviticus!

Some Bible writers have even written very succinct Gospel summaries:

<sup>36</sup> *“As for the word that he [God] sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (**he is Lord of all**)...”*

*Acts 10:36*

What we have tried to do here is to summarise the good news that lies at the heart of the Christian faith—the core message!

In the excellent book ‘What Is the Gospel?’ by Greg Gilbert (do read it if you haven’t!) it speaks of the way the Bible often outlines the Gospel:

Problem — Solution

What does this mean?

*We all have a problem...*

*...but God has provided a free solution to that problem.*

Gilbert argues that this pattern continually recurs in the Bible as a means to explain the Gospel. And we must be clear on what the problem is to see the solution for what it is. If we get the wrong problem, we’ll find the wrong solution.

## Why Use a Gospel Outline?

**A Gospel Outline allows us to keep the main thing the main thing (and helps us to remember what that main thing is!)**

What we mean is that we hope each of us will use this outline to:

- remember the core truths of the Gospel
- stick to those core truths
- make sure to explain each of those core truths
- not forget any key truth

However, we very much expect each one of us to make the Gospel outline 'our own' so to speak—to use our own words and phrases.

---

## How to Use a Gospel Outline

**Put simply: tell the Gospel to as many people as you can!**

The best way to use the Gospel Outline is to read, understand, digest, learn and then use it! Try reading it through a few times yourself. Then turn it over and try speaking it out loud. Repeat this until you feel confident that you can both remember all that it says and the order that it says it.

The next best step is to try telling others your gospel outline – using your own words and phrases. Note: try to keep it concise and jargon-free. People do not usually have the patience nor the interest to listen to us rambling on!

This is an excellent way to put what the apostle Peter says into practice:

<sup>15</sup> *“...but in your hearts honour Christ the Lord as holy, **always being prepared** to make a defence to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect...”*

*1 Peter 3:15*

Pray for the Lord to make you bold and fearless—then start speaking:

<sup>9</sup> *“...that you may **proclaim the excellencies of him** who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.”*

*1 Peter 2:9b*



## Reasons For This Gospel Outline

### Essential biblical truths and why we use them

All summaries will be inadequate to a certain degree. However, we have tried to capture the essential biblical truths in our gospel outline (page 4). Here is a summary of those essential biblical truths. We are not suggesting you include the following in your Gospel presentation but you may find understanding the points helpful.

#### 1. Accountability

We have to recognise that we are accountable to God, before we see that he is right to punish us for rejecting him and his rule. This accountability stems from the fact that he created us and so owns us:

<sup>11</sup> *“**Worthy** are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honour and power, **for you created all things**, and by your will they existed and were created.’”*

*Revelation 4:11*

<sup>1</sup> *“**The earth is the Lord’s and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein,** <sup>2</sup>**for he has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.**”*

*Psalms 24:1-2*

#### 2. Rejection

It is essential that we correctly define the paradigm for sin as rejection of our creator God’s good rule. The Bible gives different paradigms for

sin. But this one is key, because it takes us straight to the heart of the human problem: we have rejected God's good rule, wanting to rule ourselves. And because God is the loving ruler who owns us it is of utmost importance that our sin incurs his just punishment:

<sup>6</sup> *"All we like sheep have gone astray; **we have turned—every one—to his own way...**"*

*Isaiah 53:6a*

<sup>10</sup> *"...as it is written:*

*"None is righteous, no, not one; <sup>11</sup> No one understands; No one seeks for God.*

*<sup>12</sup> **All have turned aside;** together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one."*

*Romans 3:10-12*

### 3. Punishment

Because God is God and man is man, God is right—just—to punish our rejection of him. Unless we understand this, we will not see that we are all deserving of his just punishment:

<sup>18</sup> *"For **the wrath of God is revealed** from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, **who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.**"*

*Romans 1:18*

### 4. Judgement

It is a popular misunderstanding that if there is life after death it comes in two forms: heaven (for those who believe in God) or death (for those who don't). By death they mean an unconscious non-existence. However favourable that might sound, it is not true, and therefore unkind. The Bible presents us with such two options: eternal life (with

God in the new creation), or eternal judgement (a conscious existence forever in a place where nothing good resides, only God's anger). This is a truth we must face, no matter how uncomfortable it is:

<sup>27</sup> *"And just as it is appointed for man to die once, **and after that comes judgement...**"*

*Hebrews 9:27*

<sup>47</sup> *"...It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into **hell,*** <sup>48</sup> *'**where their worm does not die and the fire is not quenched.**'"*

*Mark 10:47-48*

## 5. Substitution

Jesus Christ, God in human form, perfectly obeyed God and so was without sin. He died in our place, taking on our sins in his body and dying to face the punishment we deserved:

<sup>18</sup> *"For Christ also suffered **once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous,** that he might bring us to God..."*

*1 Peter 3:18*

## 6. Forgiveness

We believe that Jesus' death and resurrection did everything necessary to bring us into a right relationship with God. This means we have been forgiven. Our sins have gone. God sees us as innocent. No need for guilt!

<sup>13</sup> *"And you, who **were dead in your trespasses** and the uncircumcision of your flesh, **God made alive** together with him, **having forgiven us all our trespasses...**"*

*Colossians 2:13*

## Return

The resurrection proves that Jesus is alive today. And God promises that one day soon, Jesus will return. On that day Christians will be saved but everyone else faces judgement. It is therefore of utmost importance that all people have a chance to recognise Jesus as their Lord and Saviour and to respond rightly in repentance:

*<sup>27</sup> “And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgement, <sup>28</sup> so **Christ**, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, **will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.**”*

*Hebrews 9:27-28*

---

## Who We Are

### **St Nicholas Cole Abbey Centre for Workplace Ministry**

We exist to know Jesus and to make him known in the City of London, through Sunday and midweek Bible teaching ministries. At present, St Nicholas Cole Abbey Centre for Workplace Ministry (SNCA) includes a Sunday ministry (St Nick's Church), three midweek lunchtime ministries (London Bridge Talks, Fleet Street Talks and St Nick's Talks) and a Workers' Ministry Training (WMT) course.

### **St Nick's Church**

St Nick's is a grass-roots initiative in partnership with the lunchtime talks (see below). We launched in November 2016. Today, we are a growing diverse group of people united by the good news of Jesus. We aim to keep the Bible at the heart of everything we do. It is our hope and prayer that many people, particularly those who work in the City, will come to know the Lord Jesus Christ through the ministry of St Nick's Church.

### **Lunchtime Talks:**

#### **London Bridge Talks, Fleet Street Talks, St Nick's Talks**

The lunchtime talks are part of a wider organisation of workplace ministries in central London called Gospel at Work. Our aim is to preach the gospel publicly so that people across the City and beyond might hear it. Christians are encouraged to join us each week: to *stand* with the gospel, to *bring* colleagues to hear the gospel, to *grow* as the bible is taught and to be equipped and encouraged to *speak* the gospel in their offices and beyond.

---

## **Workers' Ministry Training**

Workers' Ministry Training (WMT) is a one year scheme designed to provide training in Bible handling and teaching for Christians who work in the City. Our aim is to develop gospel priorities, ministry mindsets, convictions about word ministry and the ability to understand and teach the Bible clearly.

## **Teaching Staff**

Many thanks to the current teaching staff team of St Nick's Church who have contributed in some way to the writing, sharpening and editing of this resource, in particular Chris Fishlock (Minister in Charge) and Alyssa Williams, but also Dan Hong, Tom Wright and Mikey Williams.