



## The Simple Gospel Message

2 Corinthians 11: 3

### *Items Needed*

- ✓ Bible with marked scripture
- ✓ Crayons/Markers/Pencils
- ✓ A small paper sack containing one block. One per child.
- ✓ Glass of Water
- ✓ Bottle of food coloring
- ✓ Copies of complex sentence worksheet.
- ✓ Copies of coloring sheet
- ✓ Copies of take home overview



## The Simple Gospel Message

### Objective of Lesson

The objective of today's lesson is to emphasize, to define and demonstrate that the gospel truth is a simple and glorious message of the unmerited favor (Grace) of Jesus Christ.

### Scripture Reference

*2 Corinthians 11: 3 But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtlety, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.*

### Lesson Instructions

1. Today we are going to talk about a very short verse in the Bible. I hope to show you all how simple the gospel of Jesus Christ is. First, I want to do some illustrations and talk about the word "simple" for a moment. Do any of you know what the word "simple" means? It means..."not hard to understand, not confusing and not complex, and having only one answer or part to it."
2. Let's do a demonstration of "simple"...I am going to give you each a bag. (Hand out the paper bags with the block in them). I want you to look in the bag and pull out the block. (There is only one block in the bag, so after they pull out the block, point out...) Was that hard? No! Why? It's because you only had one item to choose from and it was the item you needed. That is simple!

3. What if I hold up a whole box of blocks and ask you to pull out the block? How do you know which is the correct block? There are so many to choose from. What if I pick the wrong block? THAT is complicated! That is confusing!
4. Here is another example. I have here a glass of water. Can you describe it for me? It's a glass of water... not much else to say, huh? It is simple - just water. What if I drop some food coloring into it? It is no longer simple; it has more than one part. Immediately it becomes what we call "complex". The more parts something has the more COMPLEX it is. The fewer parts something has the more SIMPLE it is. Is there anything more simple than something with only ONE part? No, because "one" thing is as simple as it gets!
5. Now let's read our verse. This verse we are going to read today was written in a letter to a group of God's people who the Bible calls, "The Corinthians". A man named Paul, whom God sent to teach the simple gospel message, wrote them this in a letter. Can any of you read it for me? (Hold up the verse on your print out.) 2 Corinthians 11: 3 "But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtlety, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ."
6. Can anybody point out the word we just talked about - simplicity? Paul is saying here I am scared for you. I am afraid that the Devil, who is such a crafty and good liar, is going to trick you, and you are going to start thinking there is more to being saved than just Christ. Paul feared they would start complicating it and adding to the simple gospel message of Christ.
7. What about these sentences... (Give them the complex sentence worksheet. Have them circle the simple sentence on each example.) Here is a worksheet, and on it are examples of something simple and something complex. I want you to circle the example of **simple** in each group. (Go through the worksheet with them: What is the most simple - "Christ", or "Christ and keeping the law?" After you are finished with the sheet)... Did you notice all the

examples that were complex used the word AND, or BUT, ALSO? All of a sudden there is something being ADDED to Christ. It is no longer simple. It became something more than just Christ. THAT is what Paul is talking about here in our verse - "Your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ." It is not Christ AND something else that saves you; it is just Christ! It is not Christ, BUT ALSO your decision for Christ; it is just Christ!

8. Is there any other way for you to pay for your sins to God other than Christ? (Acts 4: 12) No; **Christ** did it all. **Christ** came to this earth. **Christ** kept God's law perfectly. **Christ** died in the place of His people. **Christ's** work was accepted of God. **Christ** rose from the dead and is now seated at the right hand of God in the heaven. **Christ** did it all! (Romans 8: 34, 1 Cor. 15: 4). So, if you need to be saved from your sin and guilt, from being a breaker of God's law, then the simple gospel message of Christ alone is GREAT NEWS! (Isaiah 38: 20, Jeremiah 17: 4, Psalm 55:16, Psalm 6: 4)
9. Christ did and provided EVERYTHING a sinner needs. (1 Cor. 1: 30) Do we need to keep the law? (Romans 10:4) No; Christ did. Do we need to die for our sins to pay for them? (Gal. 2: 16) No; Christ did. Do God's people need to make a decision that Christ died for them in order to make Christ's work to apply to them? (Romans 9: 16) NO! Christ GAVE it freely to them.
10. It is called "Grace". That means unmerited favor. That means God's people didn't do anything to earn being saved from their sins. That means God's people didn't decide they wanted to be saved from their sins. (Romans 9: 16, Romans 9: 13) Being saved from their sins was a **free gift** of God to His people. He purely loves them because He loves Christ and Christ died for them. Christ is the only reason God's people are saved. (2 Cor. 2: 10) It is not complicated and we don't need to do or add anything! Remember, if you say Christ **AND...** - you have just complicated it. You can trust Christ for EVERYTHING! Now **THAT** is **SIMPLE!**



## Lesson Activities

- Simple & Complex Concept Worksheet
- Block Demonstration
- Water Demonstration
- Coloring Sheet

## Take Home Lesson Overview



### The Simple Gospel Message

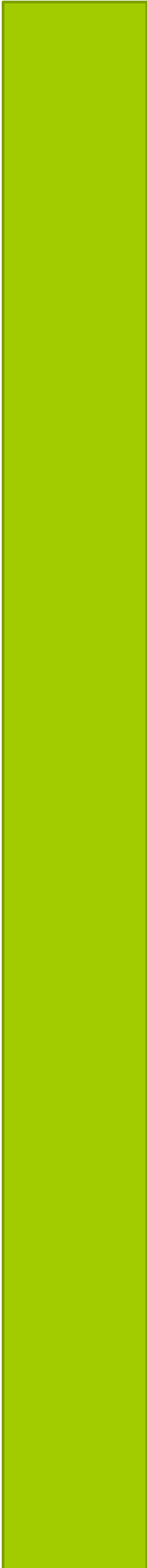
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#### Lesson Overview:

The objective of today's lesson was to emphasize, to define and demonstrate that gospel truth is a simple and glorious message of the unmerited favor (Grace) of Jesus Christ. Is there any other way for you to pay for your sins to God other than Christ? (Acts 4: 12) No; **Christ** did it all. **Christ** came to this earth. **Christ** kept God's law perfectly. **Christ** died in the place of His people. **Christ's** work was accepted of God. **Christ** rose from the dead and is now seated at the right hand of God in the heaven. **Christ** did it all! (Romans 8: 34, 1 Cor. 15: 4) So, if you need to be saved from your sin and guilt, from being a breaker of God's law, then the simple gospel message of Christ alone is GREAT NEWS! (Isaiah 38: 20, Jeremiah 17: 4, Psalm 55:16, Psalm 6: 4)

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## 2 Corinthians 11:3

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Complex Sentence Work Sheet  
Circle the simplest in each example.

Example 1

Christ  
Christ and the keeping of God's law as best you can.

Example 2

Christ  
Christ and reading your bible and praying every single day.

Example 3

Christ  
Christ, but also believers baptism.

Example 4

Christ  
Christ, but also your good deeds.

Example 5

Christ  
Christ and always going to church to worship.

Example 6

Christ  
Christ, but also your decision to make him your personal savior.

Simple & Complex Shapes - Coloring Sheet  
(Which shapes are simple and which are complex?)

