

The Gospel for Kids



The Gospel for Kids

Words by David J. VanAcker

Illustrations by Mat Adams



Note from the Author

This book is first meant to be a tool to assist the parents of Grace Church in communicating the gospel to their children (though we hope its reach extends far beyond that). Specifically, it is our desire to provide you with a hopeful, truthful, creative, and simple explanation of the good news of Jesus Christ.

In order to serve you well to this end, please consider the following elements of this book: First, you'll notice that the gospel begins with the greatness of God. It is because God is infinitely glorious that there is good news. Second, you'll notice that God is present in every scene. God is never absent and He is never out of control (Isaiah 46:8-10). Finally, you'll notice the cross is present (though sometimes subtly) in every scene. The wonderful cross was foreknown before the foundation of the world (1 Peter 1:20).

Our earnest prayer is that God would be pleased to draw many children to trust in His Son, Jesus, through the faithful proclamation of the gospel by their parents. It is our joy to partner with you in this venture.



God is **greater**
than we could **ever** imagine.

Psalm 145:7-9

“Great is the LORD! He is most worthy of praise! His greatness is beyond discovery! The LORD is kind and merciful, slow to get angry, full of unfailing love. The LORD is good to everyone. He showers compassion on all his creation.”

God’s greatness is called His glory and God’s glory never ends! No matter how hard we try, we can’t even imagine how great God is. God is always good and fair and kind and loving and holy and strong and with us. There is no one and nothing else like God in the entire universe.

GOD

**God created
us to love and
enjoy Him
forever.**



Romans 11:36

“For everything comes from [God]; everything exists by his power and is intended for his glory. To him be glory evermore. Amen.”

God planned us and made us to love and enjoy His glory and greatness. You and I were not made for parents or toys or vacations or presents or candy. We were made for God. God created us to know how great He is and to love and enjoy Him forever.

GOD

**No one loves
and enjoys
God rightly.**



god

Romans 3:10-12; 23

“No one is good—not even one. No one has real understanding; no one is seeking God. All have turned away from God; all have gone wrong. No one does good, not even one”

“For all have sinned; all fall short of God’s glorious standard.”

We do not love and enjoy God the way that we should. Instead, you and I love other things more than God and enjoy things that God has told us not to. When we love and enjoy bad things or things more than God, the Bible calls it sin. We have all sinned.

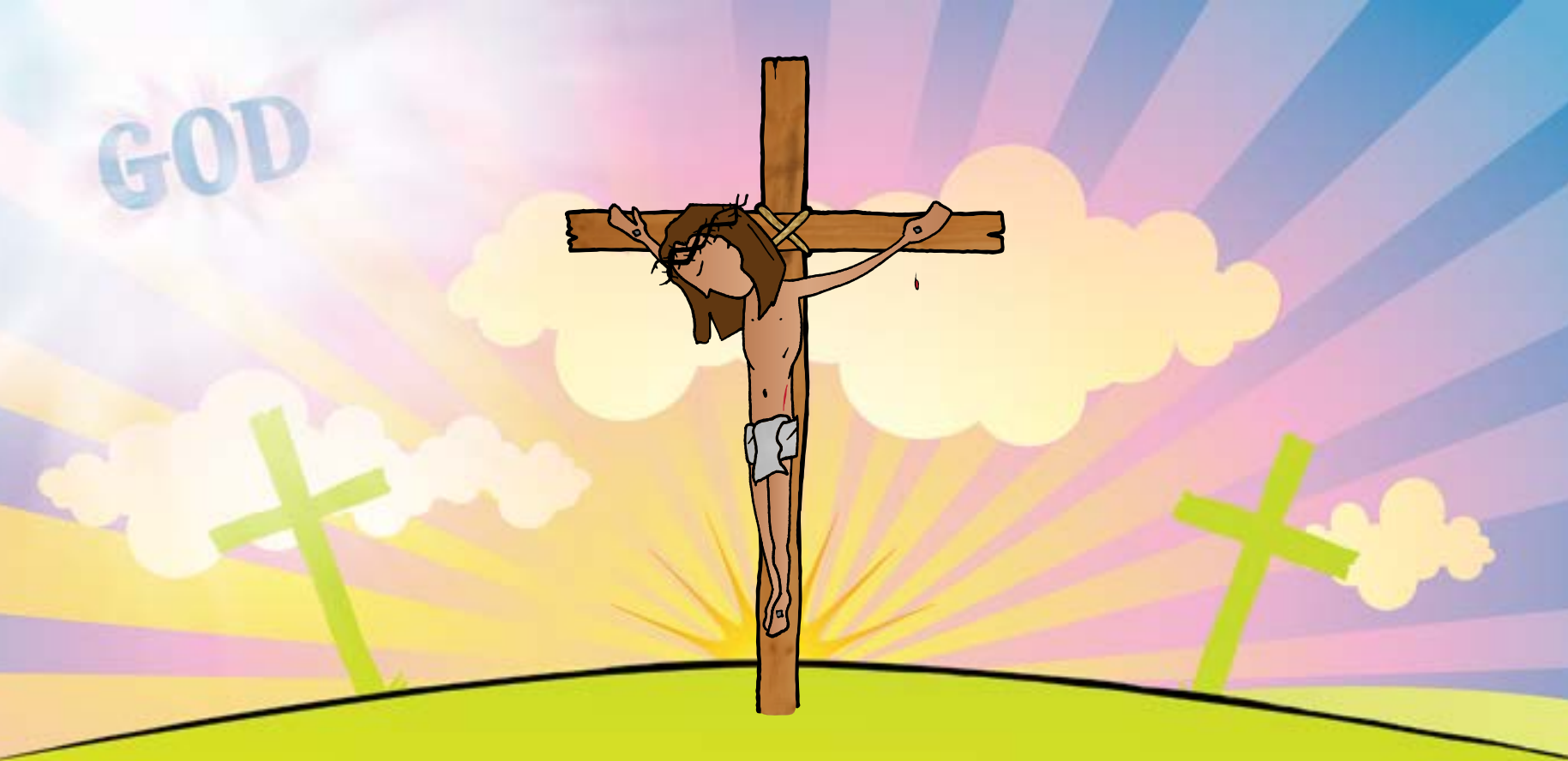
**Because we
do not love
God rightly
we deserve to
be punished.**



Romans 6:23

“The wages of sin is death”

When we sin by not thinking and feeling and doing what is right we deserve to be punished. We have not loved and enjoyed God rightly. Therefore, we deserve to be punished. The Bible says that the punishment that we deserve is death. The place where we are punished for our sins is called hell.



**Because God is loving and fair and great
He punished His own son, Jesus, for our sins.**

1 John 4:9-10

“God showed how much he loved us by sending his only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him. This is real love. It is not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins.”

Because God loves us, He wants to forgive our sins. Because God is fair, though, our sins must be punished. But because God is great He is able to be both fair and forgiving. God punished His own Son, Jesus, on the cross for our sins so that we do not have to die.

**We can be forgiven
of our sins by
trusting in Jesus.**



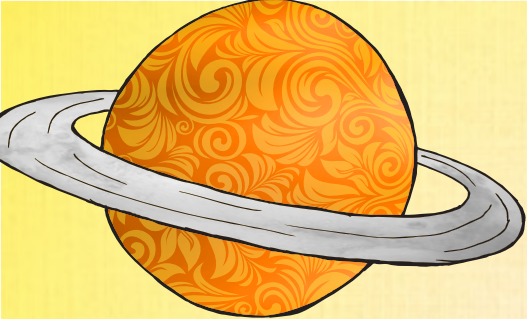
Romans 3:22

“We are made right in God’s sight when we trust in Jesus Christ to take away our sins. And we all can be saved in this same way, no matter who we are or what we have done.”

We can be forgiven of our sins and made able to love and enjoy God forever by trusting in Jesus. Trusting in Jesus means believing that He died for our sins, turning away from our sins, obeying His commands, and loving Him more than anything. Being able to trust in Jesus is a gift from God.

GOD





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