

### **Introduction:**

Good news transforms lives! At the heart of the Christian faith is good news which demands your response. Another word for this good news is 'the gospel' (*evangelion* in Greek from which we get the word 'evangelical').

The gospel is the foundation of a healthy church.

To appreciate the rest of the marks of a healthy church, we must get the gospel right!

### **1) A Timely Reminder (1 Cor. 15:1-2)**

- The gospel never runs dry or becomes boring; it is always relevant, always satisfying, always powerful, always practical and always life-transforming!
- The three tenses of the gospel: 'We have received the gospel, we stand in the gospel, and we are being saved by the gospel.'
- Christians in the church need the gospel just as much as non-Christians!  
Our vision statement: '*We want to know Christ...*'

### **2) A Glorious Announcement (1 Corinthians 15:4-8)**

- The gospel is of first importance... nothing else matters more in the church.
- The gospel is something God accomplished in history: Jesus died for our sins and was raised on the third day.
- If the gospel is truly central in the church, it will shape our weekly Sunday gatherings. The songs we sing, the prayers we pray, the fellowship we enjoy, the sermon being preached—all of it together will serve to proclaim the gospel.
- The gospel is a solid rock that can never be moved! Believe the gospel, rest in the gospel, preach the gospel to your soul, rejoice in the gospel.

### **3) A Life-Changing Outcome (1 Corinthians 15:9-11)**

- The grace of God in the gospel is all the motivation we need today to be changed.
- We never graduate from the gospel; there is no higher degree to strive for in the Christian life. By faith in Jesus' sin-bearing death and triumphant resurrection, God grants us everything we will ever need to live in this world and enjoy Him forevermore!

### **Conclusion:**

How exactly is Jesus building his church today? There's only one answer that goes deep enough and produces real, lasting, eternal change: the good news of Christ crucified and resurrected!

### **Upcoming Growth Groups**

**Blyth/Belgrave:** *Sunday, February 18, 7pm*

**Goderich:** *Thursday, February 29, 7pm*

**Clinton/Seaforth:** *Thursday, February 29, 7:30pm*