

# DISTINCTIVE: TEACHING THE WHOLE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST

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- I. **There are many deficient gospel presentations that overemphasize certain aspects and neglect others.**
  - A. Some gospel presentations wrongfully portray the gospel as an invitation to an easy life, free from trials.
  - B. Some gospel presentations wrongfully portray Jesus as powerless.
  - C. Some gospel presentations wrongfully portray God/Jesus as merely man's helper.
  - D. Some gospel presentations exclusively emphasize God's love and neglect His other attributes (i.e. holiness, righteousness, sovereignty).
  - E. Some gospel presentations wrongfully portray Jesus as merely fire insurance ("get out of Hell free card").
  - F. Some gospel presentations wrongfully reduce following Jesus to praying a prayer or walking an aisle, neglecting to explain the true cost of discipleship.
  - G. Some gospel presentations wrongfully offer the "Jesus pill" ("whatever you feel like you need Jesus can provide").
- II. **We have certain goals when we teach the gospel.**
  - A. We want the sinner to be convicted.
  - B. We want people to understand that they deserve the wrath of God.
  - C. We want people to understand that repentance is required.
- III. **Crossway's compulsion to teach the whole gospel of Jesus Christ flows from our core values.**
  - A. A high view of God informs our gospel presentation; since we are impressed by who God is, we want to introduce Him to others as He truly is.
  - B. A high view of God's Word informs our gospel presentation; since the Bible tells us the whole gospel, we proclaim the whole gospel.
  - C. A biblical view of man informs our gospel presentation; since we know only the Holy Spirit can open the heart of an unbeliever to receive the gospel, we avoid the temptation to think we can persuade them with a watered-down version of the truth.
  - D. The sovereignty of God in salvation informs our gospel presentation; since salvation is God's work, we are relieved from the pressure of thinking a person's acceptance is based on our presentation.

