**Why is the Gospel Such Good News?**

The gospel is preached often at West Murray, but next week will be special. Folks who attend will have the opportunity to hear someone other than me! Dan Peters from Merritt Island, Florida will be presenting a series of lessons from the Scriptures and I can’t wait. You see, the Greek word translated “gospel” simply meant good news, and the gospel of Jesus Christ is the best news possible! Consider a quick summary of the message and I think you will see why that is…

**The sin problem.** God created us, then revealed to us how He intended for us to live. He loves us and wants to live eternally with those who love Him. But He is also righteous and just and cannot fellowship those guilty of violating His sovereign will. Furthermore, every accountable person has failed Him (Romans 3:23) and we have no sacrifice adequate to redeem us and allow Him to justly reconcile us to Him. The only means of justifying us was for God to provide His own sacrifice on our behalf. This is where Jesus enters the picture.

**God’s solution.** He was willing to send His beloved Son to endure the same indignities we face, yet without sin, only to be executed publicly on a Roman cross to pay the penalty for our crimes (Romans 3:23-26). Through this stroke of genius, God can now forgive our transgressions, appealing to the sacrifice of Jesus and still remain a just God!

Of course, God intends to save those who are appreciative of the sacrifice His Son was willing to make for them. You can show your appreciation by repenting of your sins (Luke 13:3), believing that Jesus rose from the dead and confessing Him as Lord of your life (Romans 10:9-10). You can then establish a relationship with Him by reenacting His death, burial and resurrection through the act of baptism (Galatians 3:27; Romans 6:3-5).

The good news is that we were created by a loving God with purpose and our lives have real meaning and significance. The good news is that, despite our flaws and imperfections, God loved us enough to enable us to achieve justification at great sacrifice on His part. The great news is that He is anxious to bestow the free gift of eternal life upon any who love Him enough to comply with His simple conditions!

You will be our honored guest at West Murray next week. Services will be at 9:00, 10:00 and 10:50 on Sunday morning (August 15), then at 7:00 pm Monday through Wednesday. Brother Peters is a kind, considerate and knowledgeable gospel preacher who presents the good news in the loving spirit in which it was written. You will be glad you came.

**John McKee**

**West Murray church of Christ**