

# **The Gospel and Dirty Dishes: Living By Grace in Every Area of our Lives**

**STAND for the Gospel Conference, 19 July, 2014**

## **1. Introduction**

### **2. Mundane living** Ecclesiastes 1: 2-3 and 8-9

*“No, the character of a marriage is formed in thousands of little moments of saying yes to one thing and no to another. It is the character developed in little moments that you carry into those big moments of decision.”* (pg 115 of What did you Expect by Paul Tripp)

As Tripp also says, *“If God doesn’t rule your mundane, then he doesn’t rule you. Because that’s where you live.”*

### **3. The Gospel should be the primary shaping force in our lives**

*“If there’s anything in life we should be passionate about, it is the gospel. (He says it) means passionate in thinking about the gospel, reflecting upon it, rejoicing in it, and allowing it to color the way we look at the world and all of life.”* (Pg. 15 of Living the Cross Centered Life by C.J. Mahaney)

#### **A. Preach the gospel to yourself.**

**B. The gospel is the good news of what God has done in Jesus on behalf of us sinners who could not do it ourselves.** Romans 3:23, Isaiah 64:6, Psalm 103: 12, John 19:30, 2 Corinthians 5:21, 1 Peter 3:18, Romans 8:1, Is 43:25

### **4. Putting the gospel aside?** Colossians 1:23:

D.A. Carson: *“First, if the gospel becomes that by which we slip into the kingdom, but all the business of transformation turns on post-gospel disciplines and strategies, then we shall constantly be directing the attention of people away from the gospel, away from the cross and resurrection. Soon the gospel will be something that we quietly assume is necessary for salvation, but not what we are excited about, not what we are preaching, not the power of God.”* (“What is the Gospel” in For the Fame of God’s Name: Essays in Honor of John Piper, pg. 165. Also quoted in Furman, pg. 47)

## **5. Spiritual disciplines in the way of the gospel?**

### **6. Bad Days and Good Days**

Bad Days: “merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness” (Exodus 34:6). 1 Peter 2:24.

Good Days: Matthew 5:48 “Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect”. We are always dependent on God’s grace.

Jerry Bridges says that “*Your worst days are never so bad that you are beyond the reach of God’s grace. And your best days are never so good that you are beyond the need of God’s grace.*” (Discipline of Grace, Pg. 18)

### **7. Excited about the Gospel**

C.J. Mahaney: “*The gospel isn’t one class among many that you’ll attend during your life as a Christian – the gospel is the whole building that all the classes take place in! Rightly approached, all the topics you’ll study and focus on as a believer will be offered to you ‘within the walls’ of the glorious gospel.*” (The Cross Centered Life, Pgs. 75-76)

### **8. Jesus: the only one who lived a perfectly gospel centered life!**

“He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ” (Philippians 1:6)

### **9. The Gospel is about remembering who we are**

Kimm Crandall “*What we do in the moment is not unimportant. But the gospel is not about what we do. It’s about how deeply imbedded Christ is in my heart. The gospel won’t tell you what to do; it will remind you of what’s been done by Christ.*” (pg. 68) And: “*But know this: The mundane situations of real-life motherhood will always reveal how deeply the gospel has penetrated your heart. What you really believe about God will always be exposed.*” (Christ in the Chaos, How the Gospel Changes Motherhood, by Kimm Crandall, pg.70)

## 10. What happens when we don't remember the gospel?

What is the difference in character between someone who is gospel saturated and someone who has forgotten the gospel?

## 11. Gospel Amnesia

Luma Simms: *"I had a very sick heart. I was a Christian, but I fancied that I had progressed past the gospel, seeing it as something that was only for the unsaved, only for becoming a Christian. I set my heart on other things at the expense of cherishing Christ."*

Distraction Mode

Progression Mode

Presumption Mode

## 12. Let's meet Graceful and Graceless....

Graceful

Graceless

	Graceful	Graceless
Has had a bad day		
When talking of her husband		
Charity toward others		
Motherhood		

### **13. Some ways to keep the gospel at the center of our lives**

A. **Study our hearts and lives to see what is taking first place in our lives.** Hebrews 12: 1-2

B. **We need to immerse ourselves in Scripture.** Romans 12:2  
\*Remember to preach the gospel to ourselves.

\*Remember to memorize it. Some suggestions: 2 Cor. 5:21,  
Romans 8:31-34, Isaiah 53:3-6, Romans 3:23-26, Romans 5: 6-11,  
1 Corinthians 15:3-4, Galatians 2:20 -21

\*Read the book A Gospel Primer by Milton Vincent

C. **accountability partner**

D. **Work at not being so easily distracted.**

E. **Pray the gospel**

F. **Sing the gospel.**

G. **Study the Cross!**

H. **Remember to look backward and look forward!**

### **Suggested books:**

Glimpses of Grace: Treasuring the Gospel in your Home by Gloria Furman

Christ in the Chaos: How the Gospel Changes Motherhood by Kimm Crandall

The Discipline of Grace by Jerry Bridges

Living the Cross Centered Life by C.J. Mananey

A Gospel Primer for Christians by Milton Vincent

Gospel Amnesia: Forgetting the Goodness of the News by Luma Simms

The Gospel for Real Life by Jerry Bridges

What did you Expect: Redeeming the Realities of Marriage by Paul David Tripp

Gospel-Powered Parenting by William P. Farley