

# The Good News, Simply Put

The "Good News" (or Gospel) is the heart of the Christian faith. It can be summarized as God's plan to save humanity and restore our relationship with Him through Jesus Christ.

## **The Summary**

God created you out of love, and He desires a relationship with you.

But the world, and all of us, are broken by sin, which separates us from the life God wants for us.

The Good News is that God didn't leave us in that brokenness. Out of love, He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, who lived, died, and rose again to heal that divide.

Through Jesus, we're offered forgiveness, new life, and a path back to God — not because we earn it, but because He freely gives it.

When we turn toward Him, trust Him, and follow Him, our hearts begin to change. We discover a peace and purpose that nothing else can offer — and a love that lasts forever.



1

#### **God Created Us Out of Love & For Love**

- God is love (1 John 4:8), and out of this love, He freely created the world and human beings to share in His divine life.
- Each person is created in the image and likeness of God, with dignity, reason, and free will.
- Our ultimate purpose is communion with God: to know Him, love Him, and live with Him forever.

2

#### The Fall: Sin Entered the World

- The first humans, Adam and Eve, chose to disobey God (Original Sin), disrupting the harmony between humanity and God.
- As a result, sin, suffering, and death entered the world. This wounded human nature and weakened our ability to choose the good.

3

#### God's Plan to Save Us

- God did not abandon humanity. From the beginning, He promised a Savior (Genesis 3:15).
- Through covenants with Noah, Abraham, Moses, and David, and through the prophets, God prepared the world for the coming of Christ.
- These were not mere historical events they were acts of divine love guiding us toward salvation.



#### **Jesus Christ: The Good News in Person**

- Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God, made man. He is fully God and fully human.
- He revealed God's love perfectly through His life, teachings, suffering, death, and resurrection.
- By dying on the cross, Jesus offered Himself as a perfect sacrifice to redeem us from sin and reconcile us with the Father.

# 5

## The Holy Spirit and the Church

- After Jesus' Ascension into heaven, He sent the Holy Spirit to guide, empower, and sanctify the Church.
- The Church is the community of believers, founded by Jesus, to carry on His mission.
- Through the Church's Sacraments, especially Baptism and the Eucharist, we receive God's grace.

# 6

## **Our Response: Faith, Conversion, Discipleship**

- God invites every person to respond freely through faith (trusting in Him), conversion (turning away from sin), and discipleship (following Jesus).
- Grace makes this possible; God helps us to respond. We're not saved by works alone but by grace working through faith and love.
- Living the Christian life involves prayer, service, moral living, and participating in the Sacraments.



7

#### The Future: A New Heaven and Earth

- History is moving toward a fulfillment: Christ will come again, evil will be defeated, and God's kingdom will be complete.
- Those who have responded to God's grace will live forever in union with Him. Hope is real. God's love will have the final word.

#### **CATECHISM 1 27**

The desire for God is written in the human heart, because man is created by God and for God; and God never ceases to draw man to himself. Only in God will he find the truth and happiness he never stops searching for: The dignity of man rests above all on the fact that he is called to communion with God.

#### WHY IT ALL MATTERS

**IDENTITY**: You are deeply loved and made for a purpose.

**HEALING**: No matter your past, forgiveness and transformation are possible.

**MISSION:** You're invited to participate in God's ongoing work in the world. **DESTINY:** Life doesn't end in death — eternal joy with God is offered to all.