

Opening Our Gifts: The Gift of Good News

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.

For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me. Whether, then, it is I or they, this is what we preach, and this is what you believed.

L: The Word of God for the People of God.

P: Thanks be to God.

- We are continuing in our series called, “Opening Our Gifts.”
- Today we will be opening: The Gift of Good News.
- As a church, a local church, or a denomination, we can disagree about many things and still function. However, we must agree about who Jesus is and what the gospel is. That is why Paul reminds the Corinthians of the gospel.
 - The gospel is what we believe in, it is what we stand on, and it is what we are saved by.
 - Paul says this is of first importance: Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.
 - This is what we believe and this is what we preach.
 - Believing this is what saves us and makes us Christians.
- Today we open the most important gift: The Gift of Good News.