

“If the trumpet does not sound a clear call,
who will get ready for battle?” 1 Corinthians 14:8

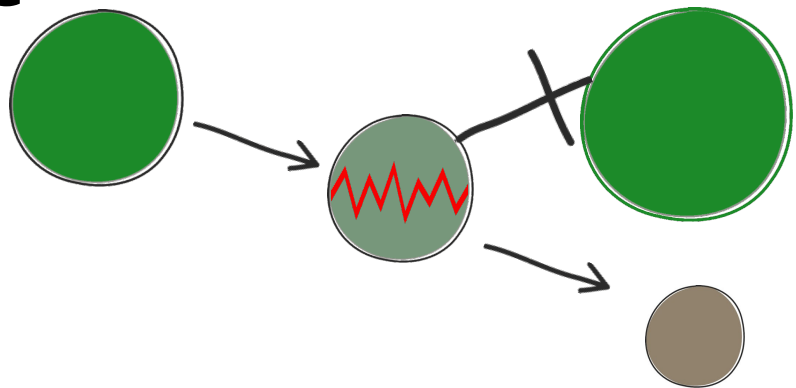
“If then I do not grasp the meaning of what someone is
saying, I am a foreigner to the speaker, and the speaker is
a foreigner to me.” 1 Corinthians 14:11

Seeking clarity of the Good News of the Gospel

1

Clarity of the Gospel

Colossians 4:2-6
ref.ly/Co4;niv



*With new life from God
in the Gospel of Jesus Christ,
we love and join God's works*

2

Colossians 4:2-6

² Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. ³ And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. ⁴ Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. ⁵ Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. ⁶ Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

By prayer, actions, and words,
make known *clearly* the Good News of Jesus Christ

3

Colossians 1:19-20

¹⁹ For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in [Jesus Christ], ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

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The Big Idea

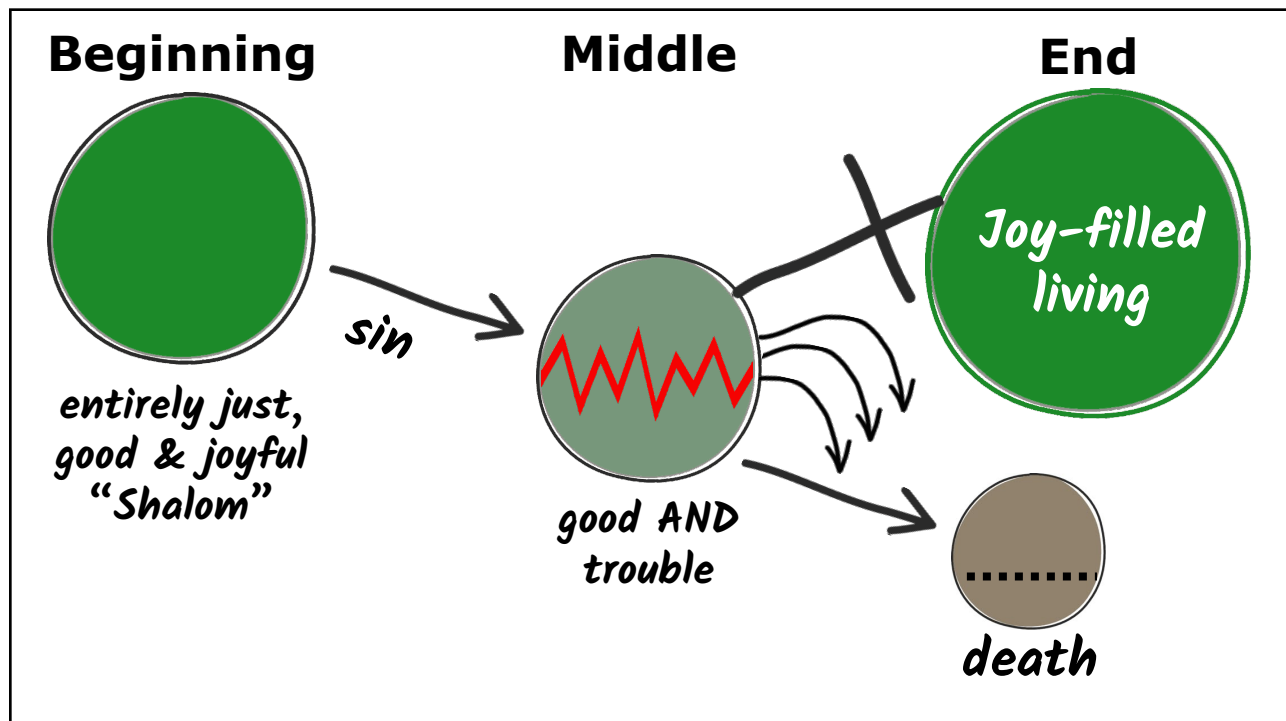
Because God sent the Son of God
to reconcile everything to Himself

pray, speak, and act
to make this Good News known

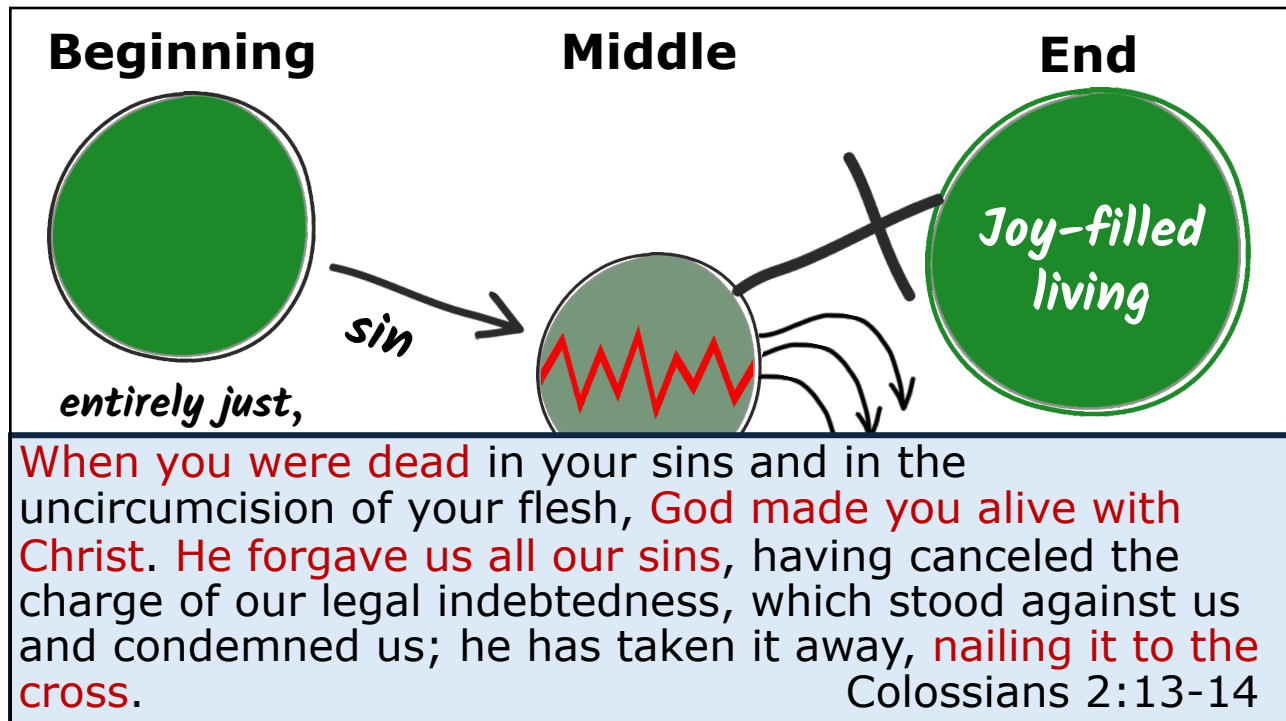
with
clarity



5



6



7

The Big Idea

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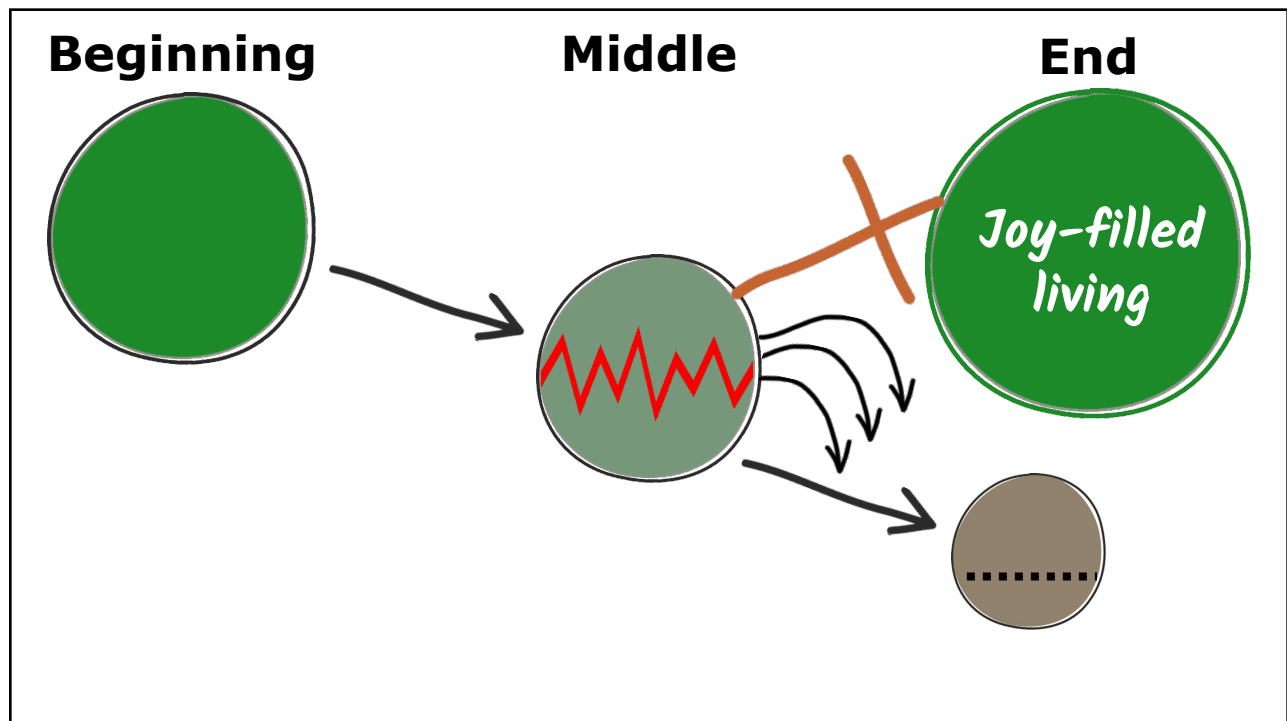
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What should we do?

Be clear about the Good News

- EVERY human effort will fall short
- Jesus is the only way to the truly good joy-filled life
- And it is a GIFT to all who will receive it in faith
- Baptism: celebrating and confirming one's entrance into this new kingdom

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What the Good News IS NOT

~~Dividing the world into good people and bad people
Christians are better or try harder than other people
Being a Christian is believing the right things
Being spiritual or religious is what saves you~~

What the Good News IS

God sent His Son as a ransom to rescue sinners
Which we receive by faith (trust) in Jesus
We then live for Jesus and for His Kingdom

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What should we do?

Be clear about the Good News

Pray

- With thanksgiving for such Good News!
- For clarity in understanding the Good News
- For this Good News to be proclaimed clearly
- For this Good News to be received joyfully

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"A **revival of prayer** is desperately needed if the Gospel is to flourish and new converts are to be ushered into the kingdom of God. This is the challenge of God's Word."

Asbury Bible Commentary

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What should we do?

Be clear about the Good News

Pray

**Live wisely so the Good News is seen
as truly Good News**

- See the Good News clearly
- Live in the Good News so others can see it

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What should we do?

Be clear about the Good News

Pray

Live wisely so the Good News is seen
as truly Good News

Speak clearly and with God's grace

- "A mist in the pulpit is a fog in the pew"
- Our first job is to proclaim clearly, then explain
- NOT: make people accept it

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The Big Idea

Because God sent the Son of God
to reconcile everything to Himself

pray, speak, and act
to make this Good News known **with
clarity**

16

*And pray for us, too, that God may
open a door for our message, so that
we may proclaim the mystery of Christ,
for which I am in chains. Pray that
I may proclaim it clearly, as I should.
Colossians 4:3-4*