

GOSPEL CONVICTIONS

How to use this tool

This tool will help you with being a Gospel centered coach. Use it as the paradigm by which you do your coaching.

For the coach, read and personally be aware of the way the Gospel of Jesus Christ should change our life, let the gospel convictions continue to challenge and change my own life decisions. Have a think where you feel less sure of these convictions and how they may affect you as a coach.

You might refer to one or a few of these convictions during a coaching session if in coaching sessions you become aware the person you are coaching is not living a Gospel – shaped life.

You might put aside one or more coaching sessions to read and digest and discuss these convictions in a more full way together as a way to reflect on ministry and life decisions, thinking on what applications it might have to what the coachee is wanting to do in the church plant.

Gospel convictions to shape the whole course of my life

1. That there is a Heaven and a Hell.

- Powerful truths - the FACT that they are there and are real, eternal, eternally serious - life changing
- Can't read Jesus without sense he lived in the seen profoundly aware of the unseen
- What good is it to gain the whole world yet lose your soul?
 - don't fear him who can kill the body...
- If ... causes you to sin, pluck it out...
 - you fool, this day your life will be ...
- Whole of his life is lived under these realities
- Apostles - their lives were dominated by the reality of the age to come. It matters little what happened to them now
 - the heroes of the faith -this world was unworthy of them - Heb 12

Grasp this reality ourselves it changes you, changes what matters for you in life
Gives you clarity -yes?

2. Fact of the cross

- Fact that Jesus could heal all sickness - but didn't
- He COULD have made life a whole lot better for people -
 - but turned back on these things
 - to go instead to death on cross
- What the cross was about far more important, far more foundational than any other good Jesus could've done
- What cross achieve? -at heart
 - reconciliation with God - dealt with sin
- What is THE big thing our world needs? - reconciliation with God through cross
 - There's a primacy, an urgency - about THAT work
- The manner of the way sin is dealt with – that is was the cross reveals something
 - if it is possible, take this cup from me
 - where the cup is the wrath of God
- Problem is so serious, there is no other way
 - the problem requires death Christ
- Any other good is very secondary
- It matters so much that humanity is reconciled to God
- That GOD GAVE own sons life for it
 - This wasn't a part time thing for God - an 'on the side' thing

3. Biblical vision

God's purposes - unite all things in heaven and earth under one head
Nothing short of an EVERY HUMAN concern

Ephesians 1 - all things in heaven and on earth united together under Christ

Colossians 1 - every man, 3 times in Greek

Revelation 5 - People from every nation

God's vision isn't trivial, small -it is EXTENSIVE, and INTENSIVE

4. Brevity of Life

See reality of heaven and hell, cross (Jesus at 30), biblical vision
Tie that to the fact that our lives are only a moment
What are you going to give that short moment to?

→ A moment that exists in the context of eternity at rest with God?

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

1 Corinthians 15:58

5. Love

- Compassion for the lost
- Love for the neighbour to bring them the Gospel
- Love for God and His purposes to make His name known
- Love for Jesus for his saving death, and living for him
- Longing for eternity to be with the Lord forever

6. Imperatives

Which of these five things find expression in a number of imperatives ie there are occasions where the implications of these five deeper truths are given explicit expression:

- The Great Commission - What is this except a consequence of these five truths?
- Paul's command to follow his example in doing whatever he does to see people converted 1 Cor 10
- Peter's expression that the Lord is not slow but is keeping the world as it is so that more might be saved - 2 Peter 3

These Gospel convictions bring great clarity:

What is our life? What are our few short years?

After Jesus lived this life his final words ring with such power - All authority given to me, go and make disciples all nations

- Life ambition - make disciples
- Boil my life down -that is the driver
- Oh, there time for rest in it all
- But the irrepressible core of our being – see disciples made