THE GOSPEL WHEEL A COMPREHENSIVE GOSPEL ILLUSTRATION

The gospel is the most important story in the history of the world. Essentially, it is the story of who Jesus is, and what He has done. The early Church captured it in a brief saying "Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners." (1 Timothy 1:15)

The Gospel Wheel presents the most essential story of Scripture-the gospel-in nine chapters, and illustrates the response that is merited by each part of the story of salvation in Jesus. The circular illustration is used to show this facet of the gospel's intent: it is the process by which God is restoring us to the state in which we were once made-eternal union with our Creator.

Here is the long-hand presentation of the elements you see in the Gospel Wheel on Page 2.

- 1. God created man in unity with Him. GEN 1:27-28
 - We discover our **identity** as ones who are meant to be with God.
- 2. We are rebellious creatures and our own sin has separated us from God. ROM 5:12

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- We alone are responsible and carry the **guilt** of our own sins.
- 3. Sin creates a separation that we cannot ourselves restore. ROM 3:23
 - Fear is our right response to the condemnation that is due us.
- 4. Because of God's love for us, He sought to save us through His own Son. ROM 5:8
 - And we experience **relief** in recognizing this unmerited affection.
- 5. Jesus the Son died on the Cross to pay the penalty of our sins. ROM 5:6
 - With wonder we recognize the greatest sacrifice that will ever be made for us.
- 6. Atonement means that what Jesus has done has forgiven our debt of sin. ROM 6:23
 - In recognizing this, we trust fully that we are forgiven because of Christ.
- 7. God's grace brings salvation the moment we believe in Jesus. ROM 2:4
 - This grace brings us to repentance, a full submission of self to Christ.
- 8. The resurrection of Jesus seals God's absolute authority to revive. ROM 6:4
 - Baptism is the public proclamation of our covenant with Christ.
- 9. Whoever believes in Jesus will be raised into eternal life with Christ. JOHN 3:16
 - We can have complete **confidence** that we will be with Him eternally.

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