



## Part 2: *Growing By the Gospel*

Nothing explains what is wrong with our world – and with us – any better than the biblical doctrine of sin.

-- Philip G. Ryken, *The Message of Salvation*

My memory is nearly gone; but I remember two things: that I am a great sinner, and that Christ is a great Saviour.

-- John Newton, former slave trader,  
author of *Amazing Grace*

We should not think of the image of God only as a noun but also as a verb: we are to *IMAGE* God by the way we live.

-- Anthony Hoekema, *Created in God's Image*

A weak grasp of the gospel is a hindrance to holiness. Or to put it positively, those who know the gospel best are those most likely to become closest to Christ and most like Christ.

-- Donald S. Whitney, Senior Associate Dean,  
Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

The gospel is not the first “step” in a “stairway” of truths, rather, it is more like the “hub” in a “wheel” of truth. The gospel is not just the A-B-C’s but the A to Z of Christianity. The gospel is not just the minimum required doctrine necessary to enter the kingdom, but the way we make all progress in the kingdom. ... It is the solution to each problem, the key to each closed door, the power through every barrier.

-- Timothy Keller, *The Centrality of the Gospel*

We should preach the gospel to ourselves every day.

-- Jerry Bridges, *The Gospel for Real Life*

Long my imprisoned spirit lay

Fast bound in sin and nature's night;

Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray;

I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;

My chains fell off, my heart was free;

I rose, went forth, and followed thee.

-- Charles Wesley,

*And Can It Be That I Should Gain?*

**So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.**

**-- Jesus**