

The Gospel Mile

Long Beach Alliance Church • August 25th, 2013 • Pastor Chris Lankford

And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles.

~Matthew 5:41 (ESV)

1) The Gospel Transforms Every. Single. Possible. Thing.

- A) When Jesus described Gospel living, He explained that the standard of the Old Testament Law was too limiting. The Gospel life requires far greater things (Matthew 5:17-20)!
- B) Jesus illustrates this by “Gospelizing” common OT Laws, radically redefining obedience in terms of Jesus, rather than in the terms of rules and/or regulations (5:21-7:29).
- C) Marriage, Sex, Money, Prayer, Contentment, Anger, Judging, Love... Every single possible aspect of life is redefined by Jesus. The Gospel transforms everything.
- D) The Gospel transforms society and culture, renews families, heals addictions, and restores relationships. Jesus called it the “Gospel of the Kingdom” (Luke 16:16). It’s about His rule, His reign, His people living through Him.

2) The Gospel Makes All Things New And Valuable

- A) It is easy to remember that Jesus “seeks and saves the lost” (Luke 19:10). Like the great Gospel story of Zacchaeus (19:1-10), God doesn’t simply change a heart.
- B) The Gospel of Jesus changes everything. Our church, the purpose of our lives, social circles, and finances. Easy to understand and explain, but profoundly transformational in practice. The Gospel changes absolutely everything!