

# The Gospel in 8 Words

*Tim Maddock*

A while back, a Christian publication asked its readers to describe the gospel in 8 words or less. *“Tell me why you believe, and don’t use a lot of big words”*. In my view, one of the best responses was a paraphrase of 2 Corinthians 5: 9 *“God, reconciling everything to Himself in Jesus”*. But what if you didn’t have your Bible handy? How would you describe the good news in 8 words or less...if someone only gave you a few minutes? After some thought, here is what I came up with...

- **God**  
*(He exists! Creator...holy and without fault...relational)*
- **Mankind**  
*(image bearer; free will; marred by sin)*
- **Sin**  
*(defying God; things that are “wrong”; universal; commission/omission)*
- **Death**  
*(physically, but also relationally, spiritually, eternally)*
- **Plan**  
*(to “reverse the curse”; initiated prior to dawn of creation to end of time)*
- **Jesus**  
*(God enters his fallen world for one purpose, but with many proofs)*
- **Resurrection**  
*(#1 event in human history; a gamechanger of cosmic status)*
- **“Home”**  
*(God lives among humanity; sin is destroyed; true life is enjoyed...forever!)*