

## “Renewing” | The Bible as one complete story

**GETTING STARTED:** What experience do you have with soap operas? Where else might someone have exposure to an on-going story that captures their attention?

### EXPLORE THE TOPIC:

1. What do you think of when you hear the word “gospel?”

How have you heard this term traditionally defined?

2. What is meant by the phrase, “The Bible is not the same as the gospel, but without that story there is no gospel. If we ignore this story, the gospel gets distorted?”

3. What spiritual disciplines help connect us with the whole of scripture? When have you been most successful in following through with that sort of discipline?

4. Take turns summarizing how each of Brian McLaren’s “7 C’s” captures the corresponding sections of scripture. How does each visual help illustrate the main point of each “C”?

C <sub>reation</sub> (Genesis 1-2)	Globe
C <sub>risis</sub> (Genesis 3-11)	Snake
C <sub>alling</sub> (Genesis 12 – Exodus)	Sand
C <sub>onversation</sub> (Exodus – Malachi)	Tin can/string
C <sub>hrist</sub> (Matthew – John)	Cross
C <sub>ommunity</sub> (Acts – Jude)	Mirror
C <sub>onsummation</sub> (Revelation)	Calendar

5. Which of the “7 C’s” do people tend to highlight the most when they discuss the gospel? Which do they tend to leave out?

6. One of the stated goals for Uncharted is to equip every South Sider to know the gospel and to be able to share it. What

excites you about this goal? What scares you? Why is this such an important goal for our (or any!) church?

7. How has this sermon series impacted your understanding of the gospel? What about the one sentence description of the gospel (found in the next section of this guide) stands out to you as new or surprising when defining “gospel?”

### APPLY THE TRUTH:

Make a plan to familiarize yourself with the Bible as one complete story. You may want to practice working through the “7 C’s” as a way of reminding yourself how various sections of scripture are part of one major story where God is renewing his broken creation. This is just one component of the greater gospel message:

“The gospel is the story of God, renewing his broken creation and rescuing his wayward people through the work of Jesus, while reconciling humanity and readying them for life in God’s kingdom now and forever.”

### PRAY:

Take time this week to praise God for his role as creator with the words of Revelation 4:11

“You are worthy, our Lord and God,  
to receive glory and honor and power,  
for you created all things,  
and by your will they were created  
and have their being.”

### NOTES:

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