Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

gospel

gos·pel [gospel gospels] BrE ['gɒspl] * NAmE ['gɑ□sp] * noun

1. countable (also Gospel) one of the four books in the Bible about the life and teaching of Jesus

- the Gospel according to St John
- St Mark's Gospel

2. singular (also the Gospel) the life and teaching of Jesus as explained in the Bible

- preaching/spreading the gospel
- 3. countable, usually singular a set of ideas that sb believes in and tries to persuade others to accept
- He preached a gospel of military strength.
- the football gospel according to Kevin
- 4. (also ,gospel 'truth) uncountable (informal) the complete truth
- Is that gospel?
- Don't take his word as gospel.
- 5. (also 'gospel music) uncountable a style of religious singing developed by African Americans
- a gospel choir <u>See also:</u> **†gospel music**

Word Origin:

Old English gödspel, from göd 'good' + spel 'news, a story', translating ecclesiastical Latin bona annuntiatio or bonus nuntius, used in place of ecclesiastical Latin evangelium, from Greek euangelion 'good news'; after the vowel was shortened in Old English, the first syllable was mistaken for god 'God'.

Collocations:

Religion

Being religious

believe in God/Christ/Allah/free will/predestination/heaven and hell/an afterlife/reincarnation

be/become a believer/an atheist/an agnostic/a Christian/Muslim/Hindu/Buddhist, etc.

convert to/practise/ (especially US) practice a religion/Buddhism/Catholicism/Christianity/Islam/Judaism, etc.

go to church/(NAmE) temple (= the synagogue)

go to the local church/mosque/synagogue/gurdwara

belong to a church/a religious community

join/enter the church/a convent/a monastery/a religious sect/the clergy/the priesthood

praise/worship/obey/serve/glorify God

Celebrations and ritual

attend/hold/conduct/lead a service

perform a ceremony/a rite/a ritual/a baptism/the Hajj/a mitzvah

carry out/perform a sacred/burial/funeral/fertility/purification rite

go on/make a pilgrimage

celebrate Christmas/Easter/Eid/Ramadan/Hanukkah/Passover/Diwali

observe/break the Sabbath/a fast/Ramadan

deliver/preach/hear a sermon

lead /address the congregation

say/recite a prayer/blessing

Religious texts and ideas

preach/proclaim/spread the word of God/the Gospel/the message of Islam

study/follow the dharma/the teachings of Buddha

read/study/understand/interpret scripture/the Bible/the Koran/the gospel/the Torah

be based on/derive from divine revelation

commit/consider sth heresy/sacrilege

Religious belief and experience

seek/find/gain enlightenment/wisdom strengthen/lose your faith keep/practise/practice/abandon the faith save/purify/lose your soul obey/follow/keep/break/violate a commandment/Islamic law/Jewish law be/accept/do God's will receive /experience divine grace achieve /attain enlightenment/salvation/nirvana undergo a conversion/rebirth/reincarnation hear/answer a prayer commit/confess/forgive a sin do/perform penance

Example Bank:

Thousands came to hear the gospel.

gospel

gos pel /'gospəl \$ 'ga st BrE AmE noun

[Language: Old English; Origin: godspel, from god 'good' + spell 'story, news]

- 1. Gospel [countable] one of the four books in the Bible about Christ's life:
- the Gospel according to St Luke
- 2. (also Gospel) [singular] the life of Christ and the ideas that he taught
- preach/spread the gospel (=tell people about it)
 - Missionaries were sent to preach the Gospel.
 - gospel stories
- 3. [countable usually singular] a set of ideas that someone believes in very strongly and tries to persuade other people to accept spread/preach the gospel
 - spreading the gospel of science
- 4. (also gospel truth) [uncountable] something that is completely true:
- Don't take everything she says as gospel (=don't believe everything she says).
- 5. (also gospel music) [uncountable] a type of Christian music in which religious songs are sung very loudly:
 - a gospel choir

gospel

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