

Program 4: The Summary of Salvation

Open in Prayer

Opening Activity

Briefly share the results of the previous session's "Out of the Comfort Zone" assignment.

Food for Thought

In the popular movie *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, it seems that the filmmakers valued the golden ark rather than what it contained. The ark held God's Law, the Ten Commandments; the ark was merely the extravagant golden wrapper for the valuable contents. God *loves* His Law. It's a revelation of His moral character. Its very presence within Israel brought them victory in their battles. However, one day an exuberant King David had the ark brought to Jerusalem on a cart. When the oxen that were pulling the cart stumbled, and the ark was about to fall, Uzzah put out his hand to steady the ark... and God killed him. This was because David had not obeyed the instructions on *how* to transport the ark. The priests were supposed to carry it on poles. In his zeal without knowledge, David had it put on a cart thinking that would be acceptable to God—but his error had terrible consequences.

When it comes to evangelism, it seems that for the last hundred years we've had zeal without knowledge, and our evangelistic effort has been very shaky. But we must not try to steady the modern method to help it along. Instead, we should understand that we haven't done things according to God's pattern. There is a right way and a wrong way to present the gospel, and we're suffering the terrible consequences of not doing it God's way. So let's make sure we follow the pattern of