

**Christian basics**

**Step #1**

**The Gospel**

A desire for peace and justice

“Kingdom of  
God”

**Common Ground**

“Sin”

Something is very wrong

# Creation

## The Good News

**God created us to enjoy an abundant and eternal life in intimate harmony with Himself and His creation.**

## The Bad News

**We have chosen to live in active and passive rebellion against God and in so doing we have died, being separated from God and His Kingdom.**

***But God gave us  
the Ten Commandments to  
help us see our mistake.***

**Galatians 3:19**

“Why the Law then? It was added  
because of transgressions . . . until the  
seed should come”

# Commandments

## The Good News

**God has given to us  
moral laws and  
religious rituals to  
show us the true  
nature of our alienation  
from Him and the  
nature of His salvation.**

## The Bad News

**We have sought to  
use religious rituals  
and moral laws to  
justify our entitlement  
to eternal life  
through our own merit  
apart from God's grace.**

***And God gave us  
His Son to rescue us from  
the curse of the Law.***

**John 1:17**

“For the law was given through Moses;  
grace and truth were realized through  
Jesus Christ.”

# Cross

## The Good News

**God sent His Son to redeem us from the death curse of our sin by dying in our place and offering us life in His Kingdom.**

## The Bad News

**We often come to the cross for forgiveness but do not pick up and bear that cross in our lifestyle.**

# ***God's grace is received by faith in Christ.***

**Romans 10:4**

“For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.”

**John 1:12**

“But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name,”



# **Commitment**

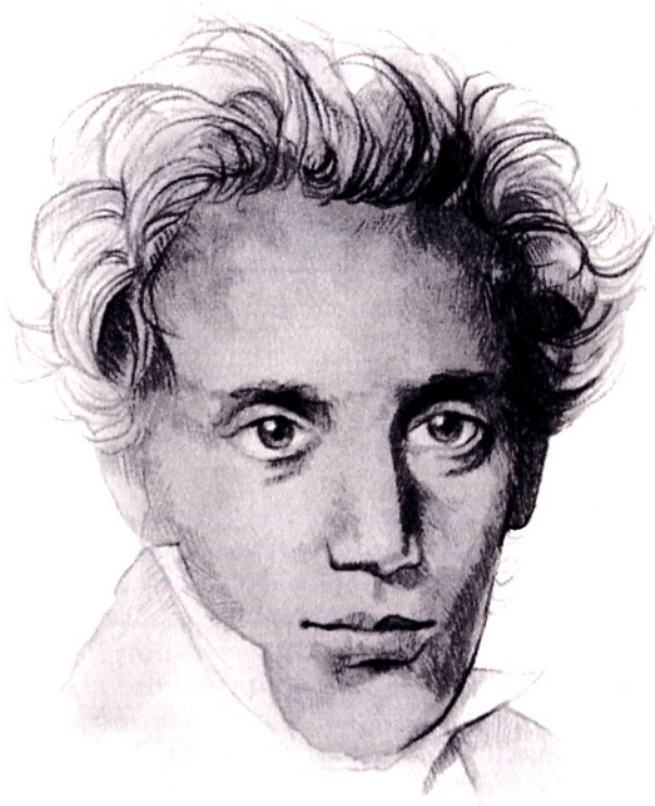
## **The Good News**

**We can participate in God's Kingdom by repenting of our independence from God (sin) and by trusting in His provision for our redemption.**

## **The Bad News**

**We can often limit faith to an intellectual confession or equate it with faithfulness to the Law.**

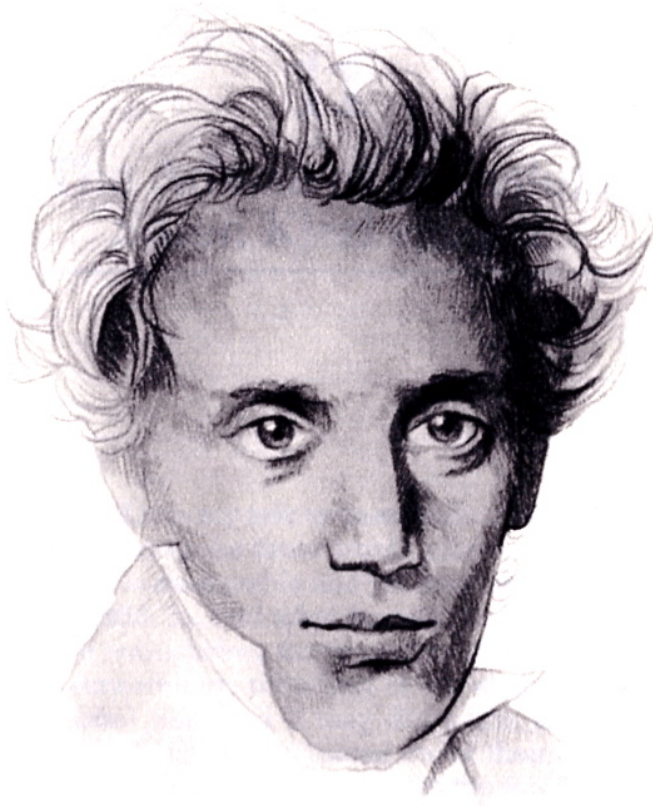
# *What does it mean to believe?*



*Søren Kierkegaard*

**Gusto -  
pleasure**

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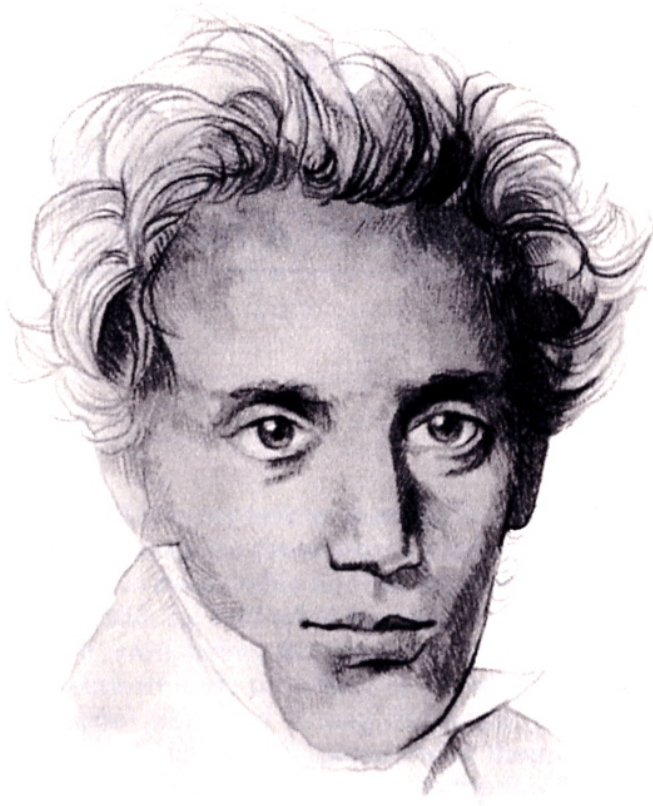


*Søren Kierkegaard*

Gusto -  
pleasure  
*boredom*



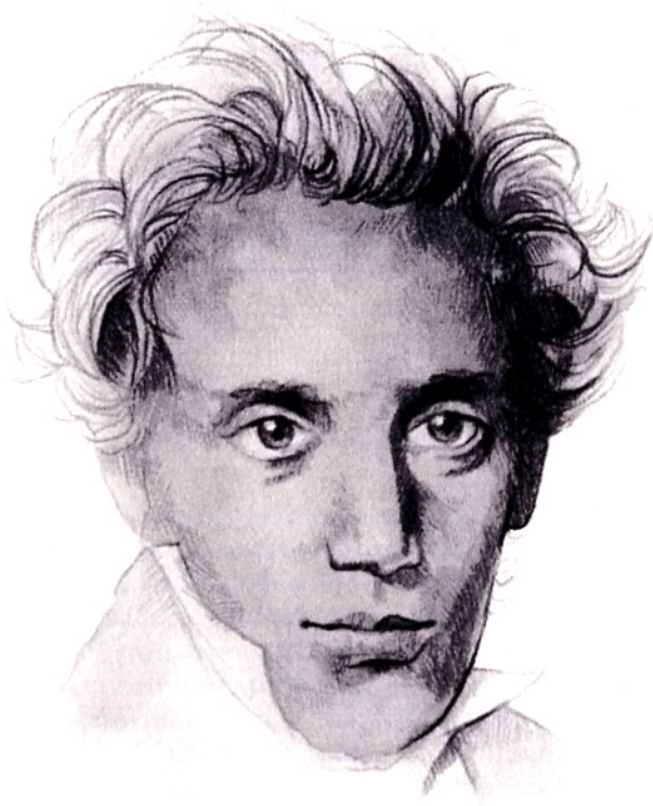
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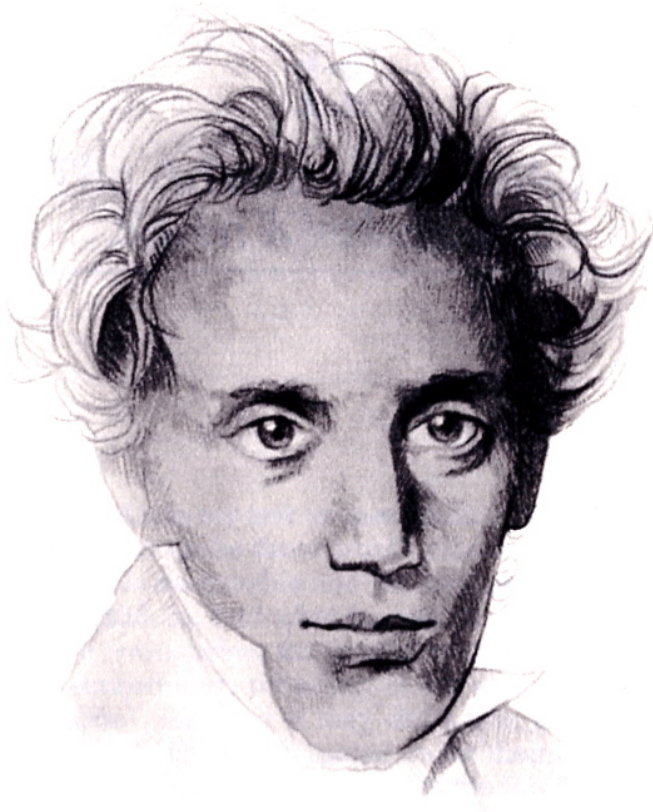


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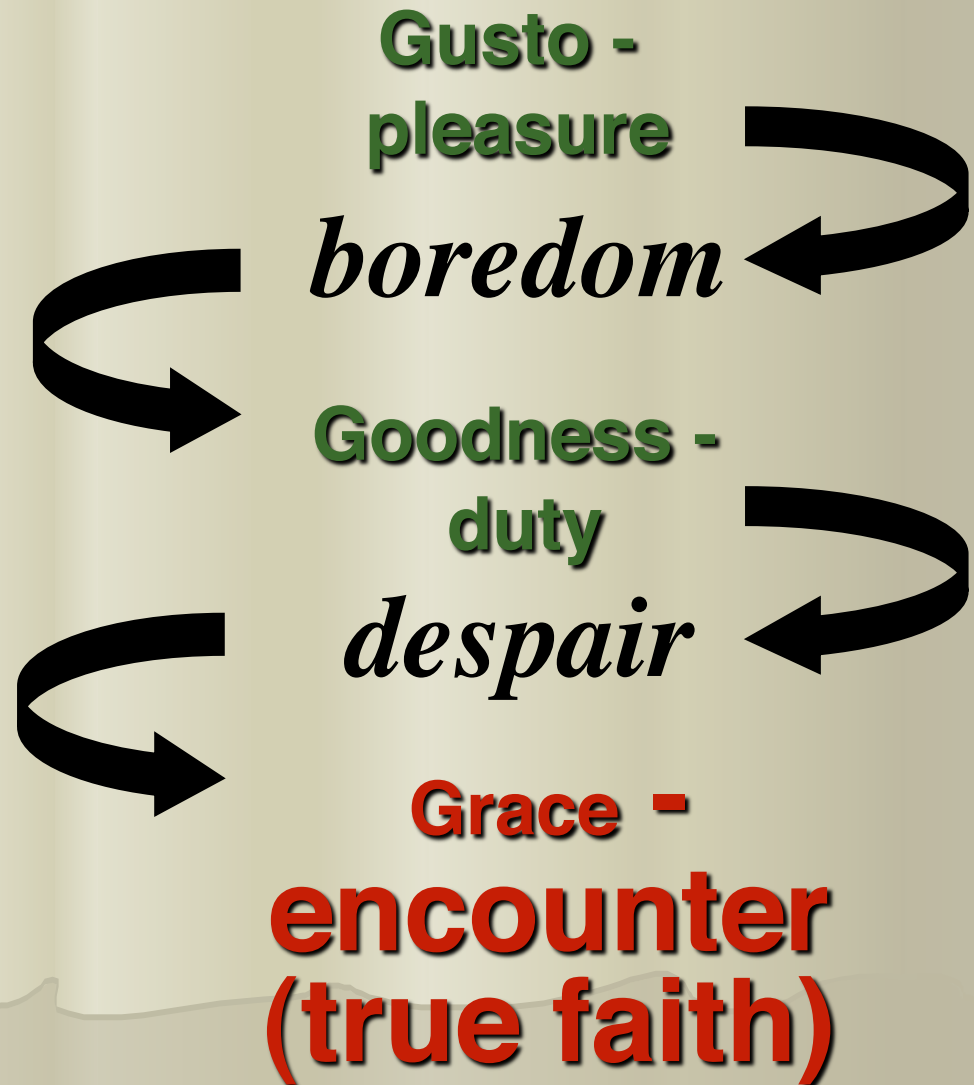




# *What does it mean to believe?*



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## 1 Corinthians 1:22-24

“For the Jews ask for signs, and Greeks search for wisdom; but we preach Christ crucified, to Jews a **stumbling block**, and to Gentiles **foolishness**, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ is the **power of God and the wisdom of God.**”

## Romans 10:9

“If you **confess** with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved.”

## Acts 2:38

“Repent, and let each of you be **baptized** in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”



**“Christians  
are identified  
by what they believe  
not by what they  
do.”**