

To dwell in possibility

By [Stephanie Paulsell](#)

November 1, 2011

What's the gospel in seven words? We asked theologians, pastors and others both to answer this question and to expand on this in a few sentences. To see all the responses together as they're posted, bookmark [this page](#). Add your own version [here](#). --Ed.

To dwell in possibility.

When my daughter was confirmed in the Christian faith last spring, I gave her Emily Dickinson's poem, "I dwell in Possibility." I wanted her to remember that, in God's house--"More numerous of Windows--/Superior--for Doors"--there is room to turn and be changed, to choose mercy over revenge, to give away everything we have and follow Jesus. Within God's possibility, even death is not the last thing to be said about us.