



# WEEK 1 - 8/27/17

## GALATIANS 1:1-10

### WORD OF GOD:

Have a group member read Galatians 1:1-10 aloud.

What in this text stands out to you?

### WORSHIP OF GOD:

Paul mentions 'different gospels' that some in Galatia are turning to. What are some examples of different gospels people might turn to in our day?

Verse 10 shows that Paul is standing in opposition to the popular opinion of the culture, but he only cares about the approval of God. Discuss times when you were or could be tempted to seek the approval of men instead of God.

### COMMUNITY OF GOD:

Have you ever been in a community of believers whom you disagreed with on certain doctrines? How do you know the difference between a secondary issue where you can agree-to-disagree, and a 'different gospel' being believed in?

What does the greeting Paul gives in verses 3 - 4 teach us about how we ought to interact with other believers?

### MISSION OF GOD:

What do you think God would want you to do if you encountered someone preaching a contrary gospel?

What would your witness to the world be if you were more concerned about pleasing God, rather than man?





## WEEK 2 - 9/3/17

### GALATIANS 1:11-24

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#### **WORD OF GOD:**

Have a group member read Galatians 1:11-24 aloud.

What in this text stands out to you?

What does verse 15 say about Paul's theology?

#### **WORSHIP OF GOD:**

Paul is not shy about his sketchy past, including the egregious sin of persecuting the church. What can we take away from this about the foibles of our pasts?

#### **COMMUNITY OF GOD:**

Paul shares his testimony in these verses to set the foundation for his ministry of the gospel. Have you ever shared your testimony? If so, how was it received?

Ask a few group members to share their 5 minute testimonies. If this takes up the rest of your time, it will be time well spent.

Just as the disciples glorified God because of Paul's conversion, take some time to glorify God for the testimonies shared in your group.

#### **MISSION OF GOD:**

How can the testimony of God working in your life be a part of God's mission in the world?

What responsibility do you have to share your testimony with the un-saved?

What are some next steps you could take to be more intentional in your conversation with un-believers?





# WEEK 3 - 9/10/17

## GALATIANS 2:1-10

### WORD OF GOD:

Have a group member read Galatians 2:1-10 aloud.

What in this text stands out to you?

### WORSHIP OF GOD:

Paul mentions that Titus was not forced to be circumcised. Why do you think this is important to note? (Hint: Titus was a gentile)

What do you think it means that "false brothers" were attempting to bring them "into slavery"?

### COMMUNITY OF GOD:

What does it say of Paul that he would go to the Apostles "to make sure I was not running or had not run in vain" (v.2)?

What do you think it means to "give the right hand of fellowship" (v.9) to a new Christian teacher?

Is there a process we should follow before extending such a hand of fellowship?

### MISSION OF GOD:

Paul says that Peter was called to the circumcised (Jews) while he was called to the Gentiles. What kind of takeaways can we gather from this about how and to whom we are personally called?

What importance is Peter's reminder of "remembering the poor" in his charge as Paul and Barnabas go on their missionary journey to the Gentiles?

What does this say about the connection of evangelism, church planting, and missions?





## WEEK 4 - 9/17/17

### GALATIANS 2:11-14

#### **WORD OF GOD:**

Have a group member read Galatians 2:11-14 aloud.

What in this text stands out to you?

#### **WORSHIP OF GOD:**

Why would Peter change the way he acted around the Jews from how he had acted around the Gentiles?

What does this text say to you about being consistent in your theology, as Peter acted one way with the Gentiles, and another with the Jews?

#### **COMMUNITY OF GOD:**

We talk about belonging before you believe. Share any experiences you have where there was an expectation for how someone behaved before they were welcomed into a Christian community.

When you see a professing Christian with their conduct "not in step with the truth of the gospel" (v.14) what should you do?

How should you go about such a confrontation? Can you think of anywhere in the bible where you might find instructions on this?

#### **MISSION OF GOD:**

How does hypocrisy hinder the mission of God?

Note that even Barnabas was led astray (v.13). What does this mean about peer pressure within the church?





# WEEK 5 - 9/24/17

## GALATIANS 2:15-21

### WORD OF GOD:

Have a group member read Galatians 2:15-21 aloud.

What in this text stands out to you?

### WORSHIP OF GOD:

Justification is a legal term. It means to be proclaimed innocent, to be acquitted, to be cleared of all charges. In its biblical sense, to be justified means to be declared righteous before the bar of God's justice.

What does this text say about the doctrine of justification?

Why do you think it is sometimes difficult to accept the Christian doctrine of justification by faith in Christ alone?

### COMMUNITY OF GOD:

We call the attempt to be justified by works "legalism". How have you experienced a draw to, or from legalism? What is your experience of legalists?

Knowing the doctrine of justification, what should the posture of a Christian be towards other Christians they are in relationship with?

### MISSION OF GOD:

The Jews thought that they were justified because they were Jewish, and they followed God's laws. But Paul is making a case for justification by faith, and not by works or the law.

Have you known church people who think they are "Christian" by birth? What does this text teach us is necessary for salvation?





# WEEK 6 - 10/1/17

## GALATIANS 3:1-9

### WORD OF GOD:

Have a group member read Galatians 3:1-9 aloud.

What in this text stands out to you?

### WORSHIP OF GOD:

What would you say are the differences between "hearing with faith" and "works of the law"?

How are you tempted to be "perfected by the flesh"?

Read Genesis 15:1-6. How does this connect with the Galatian's situation?

### COMMUNITY OF GOD:

Paul is asking rhetorical questions of the Galatians to show them the folly of believing in justification by faith alone with sanctification by works of the law.

Why do you think it is so alluring in Christian communities to veer into a works-based religion?

### MISSION OF GOD:

In verses 7-9 Paul makes an if/then statement: if all people of faith are sons of Abraham...and if Gentiles would be saved by faith...then it must be that the Gentiles are justified by faith, not works, just as Abraham was.

What does this mean for how we treat those outside the church?

What "works of the law" might we unduly require of non-Christians if they wish to become Christians?





# WEEK 7 - 10/8/17

## GALATIANS 3:10-14

### WORD OF GOD:

Have a group member read Galatians 3:10-14 aloud.

What in this text stands out to you?

### WORSHIP OF GOD:

Paul quotes Deuteronomy 27:26 in verse 10. Why is the relying on works of the law a problem?

If the law cannot bless us, then how can we receive God's blessing?

How are faith and works juxtaposed in this text?

### COMMUNITY OF GOD:

Most of the pronouns in this passage are corporate (us, we) not individual (you, I). Why do you think we talk so much about a personal faith, rather than a corporate faith?

### MISSION OF GOD:

What is the promise mentioned in verse 14? Why is this promise so glorious?





# WEEK 8 - 10/15/17

## GALATIANS 3:15-22

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### **WORD OF GOD:**

Have a group member read Galatians 3:15-22 aloud.

What in this text stands out to you?

### **WORSHIP OF GOD:**

Paul makes a distinction between the promise and the law. What are the differences between these two things?

Is Paul saying that the law has no place now that we are post-Christ (the promise fulfilled)?

### **COMMUNITY OF GOD:**

Verses 19-20 say the law was added because of transgressions. What do you think that means?

Why would a law be needed in the time between the giving of the promise (Abraham) and the fulfillment of the promise (Jesus)?

### **MISSION OF GOD:**

If we are not justified by the law, then what does that mean for how we should preach the gospel to people?

How does obedience fit into our evangelistic presentations?







# WEEK 9 - 10/22/17

## GALATIANS 3:23-4:7

### WORD OF GOD:

Have a group member read Galatians 3:23-4:7 aloud.

What in this text stands out to you?

### WORSHIP OF GOD:

What does it mean to be held captive by the law?

Verse 24 says that the law was a guardian. Discuss how a guardian functions towards a child, and then how that connects to the law & Christ.

### COMMUNITY OF GOD:

What do verses 28 & 29 say about the family of God?

What does the beginning of chapter 4 do in your heart when you read it? Read it again and consider your sonship!

### MISSION OF GOD:

Should the message of this entire passage make Christianity more attractive to the world?

If so, how would you incorporate it into your missional presence?





# WEEK 10 - 10/29/17

## GALATIANS 4:8-20

### WORD OF GOD:

Have a group member read Galatians 4:8-20 aloud.

What in this text stands out to you?

### WORSHIP OF GOD:

Name some "not gods" that we can be "enslaved" by?

Talk about any experience you have had, after being saved, where you have struggled with turning back to "the weak and worthless elementary principles of the world".

### COMMUNITY OF GOD:

Paul talks about his ailment through which he still preached the gospel to the Galatians. How can our weaknesses be leveraged for the gospel?

Why does Paul's ailment lend him credibility to call the Galatians out now?

### MISSION OF GOD:

In our missional engagements, how much should we show our weaknesses? How much should we show the strength we find in Christ?





# WEEK 11 - 11/5/17

## GALATIANS 4:21-31

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### WORD OF GOD:

Have a group member read Galatians 4:21-31 aloud.

What in this text stands out to you?

Recount the story of Hagar and Sarah to each other.

### WORSHIP OF GOD:

How are we like Ishmael, the son of the slave woman?

How are we like Isaac, the son of the free woman?

### COMMUNITY OF GOD:

How should we encourage each other when we begin to believe the lies that say we are still under the law?

What does it mean to "cast out the slave woman and her son" in our context?

### MISSION OF GOD:

Does this have any bearing on how we join on the mission of God?





# WEEK 12 - 11/12/17

## GALATIANS 5:1-15

### WORD OF GOD:

Have a group member read Galatians 5:1-15 aloud.

What in this text stands out to you?

### WORSHIP OF GOD:

When you think of freedom, what comes to mind?

Why do you think that so many people do not associate freedom with Christianity? Does it have something to do with the moral ethics of Christianity?

When Paul starts talking about circumcision he says that it neither counts for or against anything. What does this mean about how we are to obey the law?

### COMMUNITY OF GOD:

Paul asks, "who hindered you from obeying the truth". What are things/people that hinder you from obeying the truth?

Paul ends this section with a warning not to let freedom lead to fleshly license. How are we to practice our freedoms in community with other Christians?

### MISSION OF GOD:

Does this passage lay out any principles for how we should exercise our freedoms in Christ when we are with people who do not share our beliefs?





# WEEK 13 - 11/19/17

## GALATIANS 5:16-26

### WORD OF GOD:

Have a group member read Galatians 5:16-26 aloud.

What in this text stands out to you?

### WORSHIP OF GOD:

What is the flesh?

Why do you think Paul says that if you walk in the Spirit you will not succumb to the flesh?

Do any of these works of the flesh convict you on things you might need to deal with in your own life?

### COMMUNITY OF GOD:

Notice that the fruit of the Spirit is all these things (v. 22-23). That means that if you are walking in the Spirit, you will be bearing this fruit...all of them. Does that mean if you don't find yourself bearing this fruit, you are not walking in the Spirit?

What do you think it looks like to walk by the Spirit in the community of God?

### MISSION OF GOD:

What do you think it looks like to walk by the Spirit out in the world?





# WEEK 14 - 11/26/17

## GALATIANS 6:1-10

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### WORD OF GOD:

Have a group member read Galatians 6:1-10 aloud.

What in this text stands out to you?

### WORSHIP OF GOD:

What does it mean to keep watch on yourself? How do you do this practically?

Why is it necessary for the Christian to be sober minded about him/herself?

### COMMUNITY OF GOD:

This text is obviously about community. List out among your group the principles of community this text is commanding.

How can you bear one another's burdens?

What could it look like to do good to those in the household of faith?

### MISSION OF GOD:

Very practically, what could it look like to do good to your un-churched friends, neighbors, co-workers, family, etc.?





# WEEK 15 - 12/3/17

## GALATIANS 6:11-18

### WORD OF GOD:

Have a group member read Galatians 6:11-18 aloud.

What in this text stands out to you?

### WORSHIP OF GOD:

Paul seems to insist that there is pride for those who convince other to get circumcised. How could this be translated to us in potential evangelistic pride?

How have you, or others you know, boasted in other things besides Christ?

### COMMUNITY OF GOD:

What does Paul model for us in his writing of letters that we might start practicing in our relationships with other Christians?

What would our churches look like if we all had the attitude of Paul in our boasting?

### MISSION OF GOD:

Do you think boasting in the cross of Jesus Christ makes Christianity more or less attractive to the world? Why?

