

RBCPC
2011 Study Series



New Testament

Week #8
Study Guide

Galatians

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www.rbcpc.org/mark-up-your-bible/

Overview

Paul wrote this letter to the churches that he started in Galatia. The people were being influenced by Jewish Christians who emphasized salvation based on obeying the law of Moses, as opposed to the good news of salvation as the gift of God through faith in Jesus. Paul was stunned that the Galatian believers were so quickly and easily led astray. His response is clear and passionate.

Scripture Study – Key Passages

Open your Bible and read the following scripture:

Galatians 1:1

1. What is the significance of Paul's emphasis that he was commissioned by God and not by man?
2. Why would this statement make a difference to the recipients of Paul's letter?
3. Think about times you have listened to a dynamic speaker. How do you test the truth of what you hear?

Galatians 3:1-6

Merriam Webster Open Dictionary defines **foolish** as: *lacking in sense, judgment, or discretion.*

1. Paul calls the Galatians "foolish" twice in this scripture. Why is it foolish to add "works" to the gospel of Christ?
2. How does Paul turn the tables and use Abraham as an example of faith instead of law-keeping?

Galatians 3:26-28

1. How might seeing others as "children of God" affect the way they are treated?
2. How do you see yourself as a child of God? What does this "look" like?
3. What should a believer's attitude be toward natural differences such as race and gender?
4. What is one thing that you could do to help "oneness in Christ" become more of a reality?

Galatians 5:19-23

1. What is a significant contrast between "acts" of a sinful nature, and "fruit" of the spirit?
2. How does this relate to what Paul is trying to emphasize about the foolishness of salvation by works?
3. How does the fruit of the Spirit make us Christ-like in our attitude toward God? toward others? toward ourselves?

Key Theme:

Paul emphasizes the gospel: salvation is a gift from God through faith, not works.

Reflection

Thank Jesus for inviting you into a dynamic and living relationship with him – freeing you from the burden of following the rules of tradition.

Prayer:

Read the following scripture again:

Galatians 5:22-23

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

For each of the “fruits” listed, write down one thing in your life that is evidence of God’s:

Love:

Joy:

Peace:

Patience:

Kindness:

Goodness:

Faithfulness:

Gentleness:

Self-control:

Invite the Holy Spirit to control your heart, mind and soul today. Pray that the Spirit will produce in you, the kind of fruit that comes only from Him.

Homework

Read ***Galatians 2:1-10***, in preparation for the sermon on June 4/5, “*Transformation Takes Time.*” Mark words, or phrases that stand out to you.

Notes & Reflections: