



- I. Ice breaker: What are you most looking forward to for this summer?
- II. Read today's scripture out loud, slowly, either in unison or using a designated reader and move into scripture quiet reflection. (3 minutes)

¹⁰ For all who rely on the works of the law are under a curse, as it is written: "Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the Book of the Law." ¹¹ Clearly no one who relies on the law is justified before God, because "the righteous will live by faith." ¹² The law is not based on faith; on the contrary, it says, "The person who does these things will live by them." ¹³ Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a pole." ¹⁴ He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit. Galatians 3:10-14

III. **Scripture quiet reflection:** (5-10 minutes)

This is a time to personally reflect on this week's scripture. Have a paper and pen available.

1. Read. Read through the passage silently.

2. Reflect. Notice any words or phrases that particularly draw your attention and stand out to you.

How do these words/phrases speak directly to you and your present situation? Write your insights.

3. Respond. As God has spoken to you in the Scripture, respond back to God in prayer. What do you want to say to God? What else does God want to say to you?

IV. **Sermon and Scripture Application Discussion. (20-30 minutes)**

1. As you reflectively engaged the Scriptures, what stood out to you from these passages?
2. Life is a journey in which we take different paths along the way. To follow well, we must read and understand the road signs that help direct us. Some are more obvious than others; some are not as obvious and may even be less traveled.
"Two roads diverged in a yellow wood," Robert Frost tells us in his poem "The Road Not Taken." He took "the one less traveled by," and that according to him "made all the difference."KF
 - Recall, or imagine, being on a road trip in an unfamiliar area and feeling lost or uncertain of where you are. Discuss how important the road signs, or your GPS, were to getting you back on track—especially if you think you made a wrong turn.
3. Paul is calling the Galatians to an awareness of the choices they have on the road of life. In this section Paul describes **two alternative roads**: the first leads to a **curse** (v. 10), the second to **blessing** (v. 14). OT Scriptures are used as **road signs**.



- At this point in his argument in Galatians, Paul turns from the model of Abraham to focus on the **negative aspect of the law**—he speaks of **the law's curse**. Discuss how this focus of the law that the Israelites have followed leads to the curse (v. 10).
- Discuss how identification with **Christ** is the only way that leads to true blessing (v. 14).

4. Pastor Kevin points out that there are four road signs with four key words: *curse* (v. 10), *law* (v. 12), *faith* (v. 11), and *cross* (vv. 13–14).

- Road sign 1—Curse (v. 10): Read James 2:10 For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it.

Discuss together how this leads to a pointless legalistic perfectionism.

- Road sign 2—Law (v.12): Read Leviticus 18:5 Keep my decrees and laws, for the person who obeys them will live by them.

In the Galatian dispute, **the law** refers to a set of requirements (specifically **circumcision, food laws** and **sabbath laws**) imposed on Gentile believers which would identify them with the Jewish nation and set them apart from Greeks & Romans. **Thankfully, we aren't left with Road signs 1 and 2.** The Road of Law dead ends into a cursed life—BUT...

- Road sign 3—Faith (v.11): Read Habakkuk 2:4 ...but the righteous shall live by faith. Since faith is the way to righteousness, law cannot be the way! Discuss what difference this makes for us.
- Road sign 4—Cross (v. 14): ²¹ God made him **who had no sin to be sin for us**, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. Verse 14 tells us that the reason Christ set us free from the curse of the law was to open the highway for us to participate in the promised blessings to Abraham—KF.

Martin Luther calls this the Great Exchange.

What difference does this make as you go down the road of your life?

How does this impact any tendencies toward perfectionism that you might have?

What's the difference in doing things well to love others, or doing things well for you to be right or respected?



5. As you close this season of meeting together, take some time to share what you have learned from your times together. Share how you can pray for one another over the months of summer with all the uncertainties in our world and discuss how you can encourage each other in the next steps along your road of life—whether you are driving somewhere this summer or not. Blessings and Freedom in Christ to all!

THE 7 RHYTHMS OF ROOTED



Daily
Devotion



Prayer



Repentance



Sacrificial
Generosity



Serve the
Community



Share Your
Story



Worship