

WE NEED *to guard our hearts.*



Passionately Following Jesus Together

WE NEED TO GUARD OUR HEARTS

STARTING THE CONVERSATION

Do you feel a sense of satisfaction or accomplishment as you scratch off or check off each task you've completed? If so, why is that feeling so satisfying?

The believers in the Galatian church desired to follow Jesus well. But we learn from Paul's letter that many had fallen into a trap that tempts us all—legalism. Legalism is the belief that we must fulfill certain requirements in order to gain God's favor. Even though we know we're saved by grace through faith, we still try to make ourselves better in an effort to earn God's love.

Read Galatians 5

DIGGING DEEPER

Unpack the Biblical text to discover what the Scripture says or means about a particular topic and how the truths from the Bible apply to our lives.

1. What false teaching were the Galatian believers being exposed to? How did that false teaching undermine the message of the Gospel?
2. What influences lead you to believe that God only accepts you by your actions? How does thinking this way affect how we view and treat others?
3. What impact do spiritual disciplines such as Bible study, prayer in the Spirit, and remaining obedient have on how you view and treat others?
4. Why is it more difficult for us to trust God in faith than to try and reach Him by works?
5. Is it easier for us to believe someone is a Christian when they are culturally, ethically, socially, or racially "like us?" Why or why not?

LIVING IT OUT

1. How might the freedom you have in Christ motivate you to serve others in love? What are some practical ways you could do that this week?
2. How can we help one another to keep Christ and the Gospel central in our personal lives this week? What are some ways we can focus our thoughts and attitudes more on Jesus?