

Galatians Small Group



Session 3- Balancing Law vs Lineage

- Icebreaker - Today we are going to be talking about the law
 - **What are some things that you earn? What are some things that have been given to you freely? What is the biggest difference?**
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READ: 5 Therefore He who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you, *does He do it* by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?— 6 just as Abraham “believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.” - Galatians 3: 5-6 (NKJV)

- God worked miracles not because His people were more righteous than others but because of their faith. The miracles came because of FAITH. Throughout the Bible we consistently see miracles during Jesus lifetime and they are always accompanied by faith, not perfect obedience.
 - **The Galatians had initially accepted God’s grace through Christ but now they are trying to earn God’s work through actions. What has been your experience with Christianity? Did you initially understand it as something based on faith or based on rules? How has your perspective changed during your walk?**
 - *LEADERS NOTE:* Most people think of Christianity as a set of rules but that is not the reality of the gospel. We look and act different because Christ changes us from the inside out. We do not make ourselves right with God so that we can enter the Church. We come to church knowing we are broken and by receiving Christ our lives and priorities are changed.
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READ: 7 Therefore know that *only* those who are of faith are sons of Abraham. 8 And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, *saying*, “In you all the nations shall be blessed. - Galatians 3: 7-8 (NKJV)

- **God promised that all the nations would be blessed through the lineage of Abraham. Who is Paul telling the Galatians are sons/daughters of Abraham? What does it mean to you to be a child of the one and living God?**

- LEADERS NOTE: It is not lineage that matters but faith. Faith is what shows us to be the true sons and daughters of Abraham. We have the inheritance given to us through Christ of eternal life. Do we take the time to really understand what it means to be a child of God? Our identity is not in our finances, work, or our relationships but in the fact that we belong to God and he is our Father.

READ: 26 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. Galatians 3:26-29 (NKJV)

- **Culture gives us many identities but here Paul says we're all “one” in Christ. How does this reality change the way we treat or think about other people?**

- LEADERS NOTE: Paul is speaking against racism, sexism, or any kind of discrimination. You are either in Christ or you are lost. This should move us to speak to those that are lost as well as move us to treat those different than us with love and respect.

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- **We have talked a lot about grace this week. What role do works serve in our faith if they are unable to save us?**