



FOOTHILLS COMMUNITY CHURCH | LIFE NOTES

GALATIANS: FREEDOM

SYNOPSIS OF SERIES

The entire purpose of this letter is to make a clear the difference between the gospel of Jesus Christ and false gospels. Galatians attacks two false ideas in particular, legalism and lawlessness. It dismantles the lies of these ideas and paints a true picture of salvation by grace through faith alone. Paul stands firmly in defense of the gospel.

CONTEXT OF GALATIANS

The letter was written by Paul sometime around AD 50. On Paul's first missionary journey, he planted churches in Pisidia Antioch, Iconium, Lystra, and Derbe. These were Greek people – Paul's mission was to bring the good news of Jesus to the Gentiles. Many people in these areas heard the message of Jesus Christ from Paul and accepted it. The message that Paul preached was a message of God's grace. Specifically, Paul emphasized that a person is saved by his faith in Jesus, not by his works. As Paul opened the door for Gentiles to experience Jesus, there were some Jewish teachers who did not buy this "faith alone" message. They believed that Gentile Christians, like Jewish Christians, needed to follow the traditional ceremonial customs from the Mosaic law. They taught that these Gentile believers had to observe all dietary laws and be circumcised in order to be fully accepted by God. Some of these Jewish teachers made their way into Galatia and were now teaching Paul's congregations that his message of "faith alone" was inadequate.

GETTING STARTED

What are some of your big learnings from studying the book of Galatians?

How has this book challenged you?

DIGGING DEEPER

Read Galatians 6:7

⁷Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows.

Why does Paul say "don't be deceived?"

How would define reaping and sowing?

What does the phrase 'God cannot be mocked' mean in this context?

What is a positive example of reaping and sowing in your life?

What is a negative example of reaping and sowing in your life?

Read Galatians 6:8

⁸Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.

Can you think of a time in your life where sowing to please your sinful nature has caused you to reap destruction?

How are you currently sowing to please the Spirit in your circumstances?

Read Galatians 6:9

⁹Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

How does that verse encourage you today?

Kyle said, "Faithfulness is the seed of fruitfulness." How have you seen that in your life?

What are you wanting to quit doing right now? How can you continue to be faithful?