Session 10: November 6

Dear Parents and Guardians,

This week, boys and girls transitioned from studying a book of the Old Testament to studying a book of the New Testament. The book of Galatians was written by Paul and is a part of the genre of letters. Paul loved the early church and quite often found himself defending her from false teaching or misunderstanding the gospel. As Gentiles embraced the gospel and the church, some of the Jewish believers created problems by insisting that the Gentile believers also follow the law. Paul, in his letter to the churches of Galatia, addressed this issue by clearly stating that salvation and justification comes through Jesus not through the law. The law had served its purpose to show us our sin, and it had been fulfilled by Jesus. Thus, it is only through Jesus that we can be justified and forgiven of our sin. Check out the discussion questions on the back of this week's Family Card.

BIBLE PASSAGE: Galatians 2–3
MEMORY VERSE: Galatians 5:22-23
BIBLE VERSE: Romans 10:9-10
OLDER KIDS TEXT TRUTH: We can only be justified by repenting of our sin and trusting Jesus as our Lord and Savior.
YOUNGER KIDS TEXT TRUTH: We can only be saved by repenting of our sin and trusting Jesus as our Lord and Savior.

Paul's Letter to the Galatian Churches
Galatians 2–3

One day Paul wrote a letter to the churches of Galatia. Paul wanted the church to completely understand the gospel and reject the things they were hearing that were not true. Paul said, "After fourteen years, I traveled with Barnabas and Titus to Jerusalem. I went to share the gospel with the Gentiles (non-Jewish people) and to speak privately with the leaders. Some believers came and tried to create problems between the Jewish Christians and the Gentile Christians. But we did not listen to them and held to the truth of the gospel. Peter, James, and John agreed that I have been called by God to share the gospel with the Gentiles."
Paul continued, "Later, Peter came to Antioch, but he would not eat with the Gentiles in Antioch. This led other Jews including Barnabas to refuse to eat with the Christian Gentiles. The Jewish believers wanted to still follow the rules of the law. But this is not the gospel. So I told Peter that we are not forgiven of our sin because of the law. We are forgiven of our sin through our faith in Jesus. I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave Himself for me."
Then Paul explained that if people could be right with God by obeying the law, then Jesus' death on the cross would have been for nothing. But we needed Jesus to pay the price for our sin. We cannot do good things to earn our salvation.
Paul explained that the Old Testament law had a purpose. The law showed us our sin and helped us see when we needed to repent. Now that Jesus has come, we are forgiven because of our faith. Through Jesus, everyone who believes and has faith is a son of God—part of God's family.