

GRACE CHANGES EVERYTHING

Grace Changes Everything – Week 6 Galatians 3:1-14

Check out one of these helpful resources:

- 1) The Book of Galatians by Kyle Idleman ----- <https://bit.ly/3KE1TCC>

Allow God to speak to you through his written Word. The goal of this time is to have quality connection and time together. Choose questions from Know, Grow, and Show that will best help your group discuss the passage and take their next steps of faith. Don't feel like you need to use all the questions. Feel free to add your own too! We are praying for you as you lead your D-Group this week!

KNOW

Paul's urgent question "Who has bewitched you?" reveals his heart for believers who were abandoning the simple truth of justification by faith alone. Before exploring this pivotal passage about law versus grace, let's examine our own experiences with performance-based thinking and the freedom found in resting in Christ's finished work.

- Share about a time when you felt like you had to "prove yourself" to gain acceptance from someone important to you. What did that pressure feel like, and how did it affect your relationship with that person?
- Think about your childhood. Can you remember a rule or expectation that seemed impossible to follow perfectly? How did it feel when you inevitably fell short?
- Share about a moment when you experienced unexpected grace or forgiveness from someone after you had failed or disappointed them. What made that grace so meaningful?
- What's one area of your life today where you find yourself working hardest to "measure up" to others' expectations? How does that effort affect your sense of peace?
- Describe a time when you saw someone choose the "hard way" to accomplish something when an easier path was available. What do you think motivated that choice?
- Share about a person in your life who has shown you consistent acceptance regardless of your performance. What qualities make them so accepting?



Paul confronts the Galatians with the fundamental question of how we grow in our relationship with God—through the Spirit's work received by faith, or through our own efforts to obey the law.

- **Galatians 3:1-3:** Paul asks "Who has bewitched you?" after they had received the Spirit by faith but were now trying to be made perfect by human effort. What does it mean to begin with the Spirit but try to attain your goal by "human effort"? How do we sometimes do this in our spiritual lives today? **Scripture:** 2 Corinthians 3:18, Philippians 1:6.
- **Galatians 3:4-5:** Paul reminds them that God supplies His Spirit and works miracles among them by faith, not by works of the law. How does God continue to work in our lives today—through our performance or through faith? What "miracles" has God done in your life that were clearly His work, not yours? **Scripture:** Ephesians 2:8-10, Titus 3:4-7.
- **Galatians 3:6-7:** What does it mean that Abraham's faith was "credited" to him as righteousness? How is this different from earning righteousness? **Scripture:** Romans 4:1-5, Romans 4:16-17. **Timothy Keller** explains: *"When God 'credits righteousness,' He is conferring a legal status on someone. He treats them as actually righteous and free from condemnation, even though they are still actually unrighteous in their heart and behavior."*
- **Galatians 3:8-9:** The Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham. How was the promise "all nations will be blessed through you" actually the Gospel message? What does this teach us about God's heart for all people? **Scripture:** Genesis 12:1-3, Romans 15:8-9.
- **Galatians 3:10:** Paul quotes Deuteronomy 27:26 to show that everyone who relies on works of the law is under a curse because no one can keep the whole law. Why is partial obedience to God's law insufficient for salvation? How does this truth humble our pride? **Scripture:** James 2:10, Romans 3:19-20.
- **Galatians 3:11-12:** Paul contrasts living by faith (Habakkuk 2:4) with living by the law (Leviticus 18:5). What's the fundamental difference between these two ways of living before God? **Scripture:** Romans 1:17, Romans 10:5-6.
- **Galatians 3:13:** Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us. What does this "great exchange" mean practically for how we approach God? How should this truth affect our daily battle with guilt and shame? **Scripture:** 2 Corinthians 5:21, 1 Peter 2:24.
- **Galatians 3:14:** Through Christ's work, the blessing promised to Abraham comes to the Gentiles "so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit." How does the Spirit's presence in our lives serve as proof that we are accepted by God? What difference should this make in how we live? **Scripture:** Romans 8:15-16, Ephesians 1:13-14.



Paul's message calls us to abandon our attempts at self-righteousness and rest fully in Christ's finished work. This doesn't lead to complacency but to grateful obedience flowing from our secure position as God's beloved children.

- How have you been trying to earn God's favor through your behavior rather than resting in His grace?
- Paul shows that attempting to live by law-keeping leads to being "under a curse" of anxiety and insecurity. How might you be trying to earn God's acceptance?
- Paul emphasizes that both our justification and sanctification come through faith, not works. As we move into a season of gratitude (Thanksgiving), how can you cultivate a heart that overflows with thankfulness for Christ's completed work rather than pride in your own spiritual progress?