

Bible Teaching Resources

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A Practical Study of GALATIANS: You Were Running Well

Part 1 – Galatians 1-3

“Freedom vs. Legalism: The Truth Shall Set You Free”

Key verse 5:7 —“*You were running well; who cut in on you that you should not obey the truth?*”

STUDY NUMBER ONE – UNTIL: NO RUNS, NO HITS, AND A BIG ERROR – GALATIANS 1:1-9

KEY VERSE 1:6

v. 1 Paul, an apostle, not from men nor through man but through Jesus Christ and God the father who raised Him from the dead (out from among the dead ones).

v. 2 And all the brethren with me to the churches of Galatia.

v. 3 Grace to you and peace from God our father and the Lord Jesus Christ

v. 4 who gave himself in behalf of our sins so that He might rescue us out from this present evil age according to the will of our God and father.

v. 5 To whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

v. 6 I am marveling that so quickly you are transferring yourselves from Him who called you in the sphere of Christ’s grace unto a different gospel.

v. 7 Which is not another gospel except there are certain ones who are troubling your minds and are desiring to change (pervert) the gospel of Christ.

v. 8 But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel to you contrary to that which we preached to you, let him be Anathema.

v. 9 Even as we have said before, and now again I am saying, if anyone is preaching a gospel to you contrary to that which you received, let him be Anathema.

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QUESTIONS:

1. Read Galatians 1:1-9 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What is the origin of Paul's apostleship, according to verse 1?

3. Why did Christ die, according to verse 4?

4. What were the Galatian Christians guilty of, according to verse 6?

5. What two things were these false teachers doing, according to verse 7?

6. What is your definition of the term "gospel"? (see 1 Cor. 15:3, 4)

7. What does Paul mean by "let him be accursed" in verses 8 & 9?

8. Why do you suppose the apostle repeats his warning in verse 9?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: Salvation is ours by believing, not achieving.

LESSON #2: The centrality of Christ and the inspiration and authority of the Scriptures will keep us on the right path.

LESSON #3: After we become Christians our character, conversation, and conduct are all Christ-centered.

LESSON #4: All that we are, all that we say, and all that we do comes through Jesus Christ.

LESSON #5: Salvation is a rescue.

LESSON #6: If God thought you could do it, He would not have sent Jesus Christ into the world.

LESSON #7: Satan troubles the mind and twists the Gospel.

LESSON #8: The greatest protection against falling into error is to concentrate on one's personal relationship with the Lord.

LESSON #9: Remember always, the Lord is longing for a relationship not a performance.

LESSON #10: Christ's death would be unnecessary if we could accomplish salvation through the performance of the law.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER TWO – UNTIL: YOU FORGOT WHAT GOD WAS DOING IN YOUR LIFE
– GALATIANS 1:10-24

KEY VERSES 1:11, 12

v. 10 For am I now seeking the favor of men or of God or am I seeking to please men? If I still were pleasing men, a bondservant of Christ I would not be.

v. 11 For I am making known to you, brethren, the message which was preached by me, that it is not after man.

v. 12 For neither did I receive it from man nor was I taught it but through a revelation of Jesus Christ.

v. 13 For you heard of my manner of life formerly in Judaism that beyond measure I was persecuting the church of God and I was bringing destruction upon it.

v. 14 And I was blazing a pioneer path (advancing) in Judaism beyond many of my own age in my race being more exceedingly zealous for the traditions of my fathers.

v. 15 But when it was the good pleasure of the one who set me apart from my mother's womb and called me through His grace to reveal His Son in me.

v. 16 In order that I might proclaim Him among the Gentiles, at once I consulted (communicated) not with flesh and blood.

v. 17 Neither went I up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia and again returned to Damascus.

v. 18 Then, after three years, I went up to Jerusalem to become acquainted with Cephas and I remained with him fifteen days.

v. 19 But another of the apostles I did not see except James the brother of our Lord.

v. 20 But the things which I am writing to you, behold in the sight of God, I am not lying.

v. 21 Then I went into the regions of Syria and Cilicia.

v. 22 And I was still unknown by face to the assemblies of Judea which are in Christ.

v. 23 Indeed they were only hearing from time to time that the one who used to persecute us at one time now is proclaiming the faith which at one time he was ravaging.

v. 24 And they were glorifying God [for that which they found] in me.

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QUESTIONS:

1. Read Galatians 1:10-24 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. Who was the Apostle Paul trying to please, according to verse 10?

3. Where did Paul get his message, according to verses 11 & 12?

4. What kind of life was Paul living before he became a Christian?

5. Describe God's purpose for the Apostle Paul, according to verses 15 & 16.

6. What did the Apostle Paul do after he became a Christian, according to verse 17?

7. Who did Paul see when he went to the city of Jerusalem?

8. How did the assemblies of Judea respond to Paul's conversion, according to verse 24?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: Have you forgotten what God has done and is doing in your life?

LESSON #2: You cannot please men and be a bond-slave of Christ.

LESSON #3: Can you say that you are consumed with the cause of Christ?

LESSON #4: Are you aware that you have been chosen, called, in the process of being changed, and charged with a ministry?

LESSON #5: Have you sensed God's obvious direction in your life?

LESSON #6: Are others glorifying God for what they see in your life?

LESSON #7: Are you living by Proverbs 3:5, 6? "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight."

LESSON #8: Is Christ living in you so that others are rejoicing in what they see?

LESSON #9: "In view of this, I also am doing my best to be having a conscience which does not cause offense to God and to men at all times" (Acts 24:16 DAV).

LESSON #10: Are you telling the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER THREE – UNTIL: DIVINE DIRECTION WAS NOT DISCERNED – **– GALATIANS 2:1-10**

KEY VERSE 2:2

v. 1 Then after the space of fourteen years I went up to Jerusalem with Barnabas having taken along also Titus.

v. 2 And I went up in accordance with a revelation and I laid before them the gospel which I am preaching among the Gentiles. But privately to those of recognized eminence lest by any means I should be running or had run in vain.

v. 3 But not even Titus who was with me, though he was a Greek was compelled to be circumcised.

v. 4 But because of the false brethren brought in secretly who came in secretly (snuck in) to spy out our liberty which we are having in Christ Jesus in order that they might bring us into bondage.

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v. 5 To whom not even for an hour did we yield to the submission demanded, in order that the truth of the gospel might remain (continue for you).

v. 6 But to be something from those who were of recognized eminence whatever they once were it makes no difference to me. God is not accepting man's person. For those of recognized eminence laid nothing in addition upon me.

v. 7 But on the contrary, when they saw that I had been entrusted with the gospel to the uncircumcised even as Peter [had been entrusted with the gospel] to the circumcised.

v. 8 For He who energized Peter unto apostleship to the circumcision also energized me unto the Gentiles.

v. 9 And having perceived the grace which was given to me; James and Cephas and John those who were of recognized eminence to be pillars gave to me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship in order that we should go unto the Gentiles and they to the circumcision.

v. 10 Only that we should keep on remembering the poor which this very thing I made haste also to do.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Galatians 2:1-10 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. Why did the Apostle Paul go up to Jerusalem, according to verses 1 & 2?

3. What did the "false brethren" want to do, according to verse 4?

4. What does Paul mean by "bondage" in verse 4?

5. Who won the debate, according to verse 5?

6. What was the difference between Paul's and Peter's ministry, according to verse 7?

7. Who are the three key men in the Jerusalem church, according to verse 9?

8. What did they ask Paul and Barnabas to do, according to verse 10?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: As the Apostle Paul documents his travels, you sense that he is definitely being guided by the Lord and living by Proverbs 3:5-6: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight" (NIV).

LESSON #2: Paul was very sensitive to stir up trouble by talking privately first with those who were in positions of authority in Jerusalem.

LESSON #3: I would recommend that you pray with me every morning: "Dear Lord, keep me on task, on track, and out of Satan's traps." This is certainly a relevant prayer in view of this study in Galatians 2.

LESSON #4: When desires, dullness, and disobedience dominate we are in danger of missing His will for our lives.

LESSON #5: Satan's desire is to keep us in bondage by adding to or complicating the Gospel message.

LESSON #6: Fellow believers will recognize God's leading in your life and ministry.

LESSON #7: Satan's henchmen often demand unquestioned submission to their authority.

LESSON #8: Paul does not want to be wasting time running outside of the will of God.

LESSON #9: Ask God to give you the courage to stand tall and to resist the demands of our pagan culture around us.

LESSON #10: Remember to be faithful in your giving to those who are less fortunate and are in need.

LESSON #11: Ask God for a clear focus on your mission for life and where your ministry should take place. God is faithful to lead in this regard.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER FOUR – UNTIL: PEER PRESSURE POSTPONED PROGRESS **– GALATIANS 2:11-21**

KEY VERSE 2:12

v. 11 But when Cephas came to Antioch to his face I opposed him, because he stood condemned.

v. 12 For before certain from James came, He was eating with the Gentiles (it was his habit to eat). But when they came He was drawing back and separating himself, fearing those of the circumcision.

v. 13 And the rest of the Jews also played the role with him. So that even Barnabas was carried away with their hypocrisy.

v. 14 But when I saw that they were not walking straight in relation to the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas in the presence of everybody, "If you being a Jew are living as the Gentiles and not as the Jews, how are you constraining the Gentiles to live as Jews?"

v. 15 As for us we are Jews by nature and not sinners of Gentile origin (the Gentiles).

v. 16 And knowing that a man is not justified (made righteous) by the works of the law only through faith in Christ Jesus. We also believed in Christ Jesus, in order that we might be made righteous by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law because by the works of the law there shall no flesh be made righteous.

v. 17 But if while seeking to be made righteous in Christ we ourselves also were found to be sinners, therefore is Christ a minister of sin? May it not happen (perish the thought).

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v. 18 For if the things I tear down these things I build again I am showing myself a transgressor.

v. 19 For I through the law died to the law in order that I might live unto God.

v. 20 With Christ I have been crucified and I no longer am living but Christ is living in me and that life which now I am living in the flesh I am living by faith, which faith is in the Son of God who loved me and gave himself on my behalf.

v. 21 I am not nullifying the grace of God. For if through law comes righteousness then Christ died uselessly (without a cause).

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Galatians 2:11-21 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. Why did Paul confront Peter when he came to Antioch, according to verse 12?

3. What did the others do when they saw Peter changing his mind, according to verse 13?

4. What did Paul do, according to verse 14?

5. How is a man “made righteous” in God’s sight, according to verse 16?

6. Why did Paul die to the Law, according to verse 19?

7. What happened to Paul, according to verse 20?

8. What does Paul say about Christ's death in verse 21?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: God blesses those who have courage enough to stand for their convictions.

LESSON #2: Job said: "I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; I myself will see him with my own eyes—I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!" (Job 19:25-27 NIV).

LESSON #3: Esther said: "Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my maids will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish" (Esther 4:16 NIV).

LESSON #4: Daniel stood for his convictions. "But Daniel resolved not to defile himself with the royal food and wine, and he asked the chief official for permission not to defile himself this way. . . . Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened toward Jerusalem. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done before" (Dan. 1:8; 6:10 NIV).

LESSON #5: Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego stood for their convictions. "Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego replied to the king, 'O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you in this matter. If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to save us from it, and he will rescue us from your hand, O king. But even if he does not, we want you to know, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up'" (Dan. 3:16-18 NIV).

LESSON #6: No one is made righteous by the works of the Law.

LESSON #7: “The fear of man brings a snare but whoso puts his trust in the Lord shall be safe” (Prov. 29:25 NIV).

LESSON #8: Our responsibility is to “walk straight in relationship to the truth of the Gospel.”

LESSON #9: A man is made righteous only through faith in Christ Jesus.

LESSON #10: When I keep on trying to perform the works of the Law after I become a Christian, I am telling Jesus that His death was not adequate.

LESSON #11: “If righteousness comes through the law, then Jesus Christ died to no purpose” (Gal. 2:21).

LESSON #12: The living Christ is waiting to live out His life through us.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER FIVE – UNTIL: YOU SAID, “I DO IT MYSELF” – GALATIANS 3:1-14

KEY VERSE 3:3

v. 1 O foolish Galatians who fascinated (bewitched) you before whose eyes Jesus Christ was portrayed having been crucified.

v. 2 This only I am desiring to learn from you. Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law or by the message of faith?

v. 3 Are you so foolish, having begun in the Spirit now are you being brought to maturity in the flesh?

v. 4 So many things did you suffer in vain? If indeed it be in vain.

v. 5 Therefore the one supplying the Spirit to you and working miracles among you (Is He doing it) by the works of the law or by the message of faith?

v. 6 Even as Abraham believed God and it was reckoned unto Him for righteousness.

v. 7 You are knowing therefore that those who are of faith these are sons of Abraham.

v. 8 Now the scripture, having foreseen that on faith God is justifying the Gentiles announced beforehand to Abraham all the Gentiles shall be blessed in you.

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v. 9 So that those who are believing ones (of faith) are being blessed with believing Abraham.

v. 10 For as many as are of the works of the law are under a curse. For it is written "Cursed is everyone who is not remaining in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them."

v. 11 But that in the law no one is being made righteous before (in the sight of) God is clear (evident) because the righteous (man) shall live by faith.

v. 12 Now the law is not of faith but the one who has done them shall live in them.

v. 13 Christ delivered us by the payment of a ransom from the curse of the law. Having become a curse in behalf of us because it is written cursed is everyone who is suspended upon a tree.

v. 14 In order that to the Gentiles the blessing of Abraham might come in Jesus Christ, in order that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Galatians 3:1-14 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What did Paul want to learn from them, according to verse 2?

3. How are we "brought to maturity" in the Christian faith, according to verse 3?

4. How does Paul illustrate his truth, according to verses 6-9?

5. What is the condition of those who are under the "works of the Law," according to verse 10?

6. When someone begins to try and keep the Law, what is his responsibility?

7. How is the “righteous man” described in verse 11?

8. How did Christ deliver us from the “curse of the Law,” according to verse 13?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: The Gospel story begins with the death of the Lord Jesus. “For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures” (1 Cor. 15:3-4 NASB).

LESSON #2: “Now to the one who works, his wage is not reckoned as a favor, but as what is due. But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is reckoned as righteousness” (Rom. 4:4-5 NASB). Abraham believed God and it was reckoned unto Him for righteousness.

LESSON #3: “Yet, with respect to the promise of God, he did not waver in unbelief, but grew strong in faith, giving glory to God” (Rom. 4:20 NASB).

LESSON #4: It is a very real possibility that we can get sidetracked by false teaching.

LESSON #5: God’s gracious gift in the Lord Jesus Christ is totally adequate for salvation, sanctification, and glorification.

LESSON #6: You cannot experience the new birth by the Spirit and then be brought to maturity in the flesh.

LESSON #7: Suffering is a vital tool of God for spiritual growth and development.

LESSON #8: The Spirit of God comes in when you become a Christian.

LESSON #9: Everything God does is on the basis of faith.

LESSON #10: The curse of the Law is that you must do it all to make it. "For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one point, he has become guilty of all" (Jam. 2:10 NASB).

LESSON #11: There is no gain without pain.

LESSON #12: Christ took the curse of the Law, that we might have the blessing.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER SIX – UNTIL: YOU FAILED TO READ THE INSTRUCTIONS
– GALATIANS 3:15-29

KEY VERSE 3:19

v. 15 Brethren, I am speaking after the manner of men. Yet a man's covenant when it has been ratified no one is (broken vows) nullifying or adding to it.

v. 16 Now to Abraham were spoken the promises and to his seed. He is not saying and to the seeds as in respect to many but as in respect to one and to your seed who is Christ.

v. 17 Now this I am saying, a covenant has been ratified beforehand by God, the Law which came after 430 years does not revoke with the result to render inoperative the promise.

v. 18 For if the inheritance is from law it is no longer of promise. But to Abraham through promise God has bestowed it.

v. 19 Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions until the seed should come to whom the promise had been made, having been arranged (ordained) through angels, by the hand of a mediator.

v. 20 Now the mediator is not of one, but God is one.

v. 21 Is therefore the law against the promises of God. God forbid! For if a law had been given which was able to make alive, actually righteousness would have been from the law.

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v. 22 But the scripture shut up all under sin in order that the promise on the ground of faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

v. 23 But before faith came, under law we were being guarded, being shut up unto the faith about to be revealed.

v. 24 So the law became our guardian unto Christ, in order that on the grounds of faith we might be made righteous.

v. 25 But faith having come, we are no longer under the guardian.

v. 26 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

v. 27 For as many as were baptized with Christ, put on Christ.

v. 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.

v. 29 Now if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, heirs according to promise.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Galatians 3:15-29 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What promises were made to Abraham by God? (Consult Genesis 13 & 15)

3. Who is the "seed" of Abraham, according to verse 16?

4. Why was the Law given, according to verse 19?

5. What does the Law do for all of humanity, according to verse 22?

6. After coming to faith in Christ, what is our relationship to the Law, according to verse 25?

7. What is our relationship to God, according to verse 26?

8. What conclusions does Paul draw in verse 29?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: The covenant of Abraham is an unconditional covenant because God alone walks between the pieces.

LESSON #2: The Law was given to reveal sin, not to remove it.

LESSON #3: The giving of the Law did not affect the unconditional promises of God.

LESSON #4: Salvation is based on the unconditional promises of God.

LESSON #5: The Law cannot give life, nor declare us righteous in God's sight.

LESSON #6: "Now we know that whatever the Law says, it speaks to those who are under the Law, that every mouth may be closed, and all the world may become accountable to God; because by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law comes the knowledge of sin" (Rom. 3:19-20 NASB).

LESSON #7: We are made righteous on the grounds of faith and not by the works of the Law.

LESSON #8: "Faith having come, we are no longer under the Law."

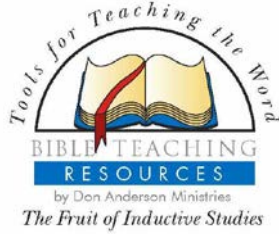
LESSON #9: We become sons and daughters in God's family when we receive Christ.

LESSON #10: “For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!" The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him in order that we may also be glorified with Him” (Rom. 8:14-17 NASB).

LESSON #11: We are clothed with Christ when we receive Him as Savior. “And so, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience” (Col. 3:12 NASB).

LESSON #12: “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you” (1 Pet. 1:3-4 NASB). Our inheritance is secure and that’s a promise.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:



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A Practical Study of GALATIANS: You Were Running Well

Part 2 – Galatians 4-6

“Freedom vs. Legalism: The Truth Shall Set You Free”

Key verse 5:7 —“*You were running well; who cut in on you that you should not obey the truth?*”

STUDY NUMBER SEVEN – UNTIL: YOU DIDN'T GRADUATE – GALATIANS 4:1-11

KEY VERSES 4:5, 6

v. 1 Now I am saying as long as the heir is a child he is no different than a slave though being legally owner of all.

v. 2 But is under Guardians and stewards until the previously appointed time of the father.

v. 3 So also we when we were children we were in a permanent state of servitude under the rudiments of the world.

v. 4 But when the fullness of the time came. God sent forth his Son, born of a woman, born under law

v. 5 in order that he might deliver out by the payment of a ransom those under law, in order that we might receive the adoption.

v. 6 Now because you are sons, God sent forth the Spirit of his son into our hearts crying Abba, Father.

v. 7 So that no longer are you a slave but a son, now if (you are) a son, (you are) also an heir through God.

v. 8 But at that time, (in fact) not knowing God you were enslaved to those which by nature are not being gods.

v. 9 But now having come to know God, indeed rather having become known by God, How are you turning back again to the weak and beggarly rudiments to which you are willing to be enslaved again.

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v. 10 Days you are scrupulously (religiously) observing and months and seasons and years.

v. 11 I am afraid about you lest perhaps in vain I have laboured to the point of exhaustion for you.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Galatians 4:1-11 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What do you think Paul means in verse 1 when he says, “the heir is a child, he is no different than a slave though being legally owner of all”?

3. What does Paul mean by “guardians and stewards until the previously appointed time of the father” in verse 2?

4. Why did God send forth His Son, according to verse 5?

5. What is our new relationship with the Father, according to verse 6?

6. What has God done to reveal this relationship, according to verse 6?

7. What conclusions does Paul draw in verse 7?

8. Describe our past life, according to verse 8.

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: We become sons and daughters at salvation.

LESSON #2: As sons and daughters, we are part of God's family.

LESSON #3: God sent forth His Son and the Spirit to guide us into all truth.

LESSON #4: The inheritance is for the family.

LESSON #5: God's timing is always perfect. "He has made everything beautiful in its time . . ." (Ecc. 3:11 NIV).

LESSON #6: The cry of relationship is "Abba! Father!"

LESSON #7: The Holy Spirit restrains us from evil.

LESSON #8: We come from a slave to a son by the Savior through the Spirit.

LESSON #9: The two-fold purpose of the Son's coming into the world is: (1) "in order that he might deliver out by the payment of a ransom those under law" and (2) "in order that we might receive the adoption" (verse 5).

LESSON #10: How careful we must be to focus and concentrate upon an ever deepening relationship with Jesus Christ rather than performing for Him.

LESSON #11: May God's Spirit motivate us to press on in perseverance to the finish line.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER EIGHT – UNTIL: YOU GOT THE P.B.A. DISEASE (PRETTY BAD ATTITUDE) – GALATIANS 4:12-20

KEY VERSE 4:16

v. 12 Become as I am, Because I also became as you were brethren. I am begging you, you did me no wrong.

v. 13 But you know that because of an infirmity of the flesh I preached the gospel to you the former time.

v. 14 And your trial in my flesh you did not despise nor loathe, but as a messenger of God you received me, as Christ Jesus.

v. 15 Where is therefore your declaration of blessedness. For I am bearing witness to you that if possible you would have dug out your own eyes and given them to me.

v. 16 So then have I become your enemy by telling you the truth?

v. 17 They are eagerly desiring you but not rightly, desiring to shut you out in order that you might be seeking them.

v. 18 But it is good to be desired eagerly in a good thing always and not only when I am present with you.

v. 19 My little children of whom again I am experiencing the pains of birth until which time Christ should be formed in you.

v. 20 Moreover, I was longing to be present with you at this moment and could change my tone (voice), because I am perplexed (at a loss) about you.

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QUESTIONS:

1. Read Galatians 4:12-20 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What does Paul command them to do in verse 12?

3. What do you think Paul means by the term “infirmity of the flesh” in verse 13?

4. What was their original attitude toward the apostle, according to verses 14 & 15?

5. Why do you think they had a change of attitude toward the apostle, according to verse 16?

6. Describe the technique of the false teachers in verse 17.

7. What is the apostle's desire for them, according to verse 19?

8. Summarize in your own words his desires in verse 20.

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: It is always good for us to be sensitive and to listen to the exhortations of our Christian brothers and sisters.

LESSON #2: Paul describes his witness in 1 Corinthians 9:20: "And to the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might win Jews; to those who are under the Law, as under the Law, though not being myself under the Law, that I might win those who are under the Law" (NASB).

LESSON #3: Paul says his strategy is described in 1 Corinthians 9:22: “To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak; I have become all things to all men, that I may by all means save some” (NASB).

LESSON #4: Paul did not let his infirmity in the flesh stand in the way of his effective ministry to others.

LESSON #5: Paul knew that an effective, fruitful witness is that because of who he is and what he does more than what he has to say.

LESSON #6: Time and circumstances often change attitudes.

LESSON #7: The Lord often uses our weaknesses to display His glory.

LESSON #8: You run the risk of rejection when you speak the truth in relationships.

LESSON #9: Beware of false teachers who are trying to get you under their spell.

LESSON #10: Is Christ daily being formed in you?

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER NINE – UNTIL: “WHEE! I AM FREE” BECAME, “BOY! I AM IN BONDAGE” – GALATIANS 4:21-5:1

KEY VERSE 5:1

v. 21 Tell me, you who are desiring to be under law, are you not hearing the law?

v. 22 For it has been written that Abraham had two sons, one from the maidservant and one from the free woman.

v. 23 On the one hand, the son from the maidservant had been born after the flesh. On the other hand, the son from the free woman had been born through the promise.

v. 24 Which class of things is allegorical. For these are two covenants, one from Mount Sinah giving birth to bondage, which is Hagar.

v. 25 Now this Hagar is Mount Sinah in Arabia, and is corresponding to the Jerusalem which now is, for she is in slavery with her children.

v. 26 But the Jerusalem which is above is free which is our mother.

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v. 27 For it has been written; Rejoice barren woman who is not bringing forth (bearing children). Break forth and cry you who are not experiencing the pains of birth, because more are the children of the desolate than of the one who is having a husband.

v. 28 Now you, brethren (are) after the manner of Isaac. You (are) children of promise.

v. 29 But just as then, he who was born according to the flesh was persecuting him who was born according to the Spirit, so also now.

v. 30 But what is the scripture saying? Throw out the maidservant and her son. For the son of the maidservant shall by no means inherit with the son of the free woman.

v. 31 Therefore, brethren we are not children of the maidservant but of the free woman.

5:v. 1 For this freedom Christ set us free. Keep on standing firm therefore and stop becoming entangled again in a yoke of bondage.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Galatians 4:21-5:1 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What two sons of Abraham is Paul talking about here? (Consult Genesis 16 & 21)

3. Which son represents the law, and which son represents the promise, according to verse 23?

4. Why does Paul mention Mount Sinai and Jerusalem in verse 25?

5. How are the Christians in Galatia identified in verse 28?

6. What is the attitude of those “born according to the flesh” towards those “born according to the Spirit” in verse 29?

7. What command is given in verse 30?

8. What command is given to the Galatian Christians in chapter 5:1?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: Be careful to consider the content and consequences before you sign-off in making a decision.

LESSON #2: The safest thing we can do when God’s promise is left unfulfilled is to wait.

LESSON #3: Abraham and Sarah tried to help God fulfill His promise to them and that created the problem.

LESSON #4: God does not need our help in fulfilling His promises to us.

LESSON #5: The law gives birth to bondage, the promise gives birth to freedom.

LESSON #6: When we come to know Jesus Christ as Savior we become children of promise.

LESSON #7: The flesh and the Spirit will always be in conflict.

LESSON #8: Are you in bondage to anyone or anything at this time?

LESSON #9: Have you been set free in Jesus Christ?

LESSON #10: The yoke of the law leads to bondage. The yoke of the Lord is easy.

LESSON #11: It is for freedom that Christ has set us free.

LESSON #12: “Keep on standing firm therefore and stop becoming entangled again in a yoke of bondage” (Galatians 5:1).

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER TEN – UNTIL: YOU SAID, “DON’T CONFUSE ME WITH THE FACTS” **– GALATIANS 5:2-15**

KEY VERSE 5:8

v. 2 Behold, I, Paul am saying to you that if you are receiving circumcision, Christ will benefit you nothing.

v. 3 Now I am witnessing again to every man who is being circumcised that he is under obligation to do the whole law.

v. 4 You have been rendered inoperative from Christ. You who are trying to be justified in the law, you fell out from grace.

v. 5 For we through the Spirit on the ground of faith are eagerly awaiting a hoped for righteousness.

v. 6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision is of any power nor uncircumcision, but faith operating through love.

v. 7 You were running well; who cut in on you and thus hindered you from obeying the truth?

v. 8 This persuasion is not from the one who is calling you.

v. 9 A little leaven is leavening the whole lump.

v. 10 As for myself I have come to a settled persuasion in the Lord with respect to you that you will take no other view than this. But the one who is troubling you shall bear his judgment whoever he is.

v. 11 And I brethren, if I am still preaching circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? Then the stumbling-block of the cross has been rendered inoperative.

v. 12 I would that they who are upsetting you would have themselves mutilated.

v. 13 For you, brethren, were called upon the basis of freedom. Only do not turn your liberty into a base of operations for the flesh. But through love keep on serving one another.

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v. 14 For the whole law in one word has been fulfilled: (namely) in this: Love your neighbor as (you do) yourself.

v. 15 But if you are biting and devouring one another, take heed lest you be consumed by one another.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Galatians 5:2-15 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What is the obligation of a man being circumcised, according to verse 3?

3. What do you think Paul means by the phrase “you fell out from grace” in verse 4?

4. What is the most important thing, according to verse 6?

5. To what does Paul liken the Christian life, according to verse 7?

6. Explain the meaning of verse 9.

7. What command does the apostle give in verse 13?

8. How can you summarize the “whole Law,” according to verse 14?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: The last thing Paul said to these Galatian Christians is recorded in the first verse of chapter 5 which just precedes this study: "For this freedom Christ set us free. Keep on standing firm therefore and stop becoming entangled again in a yoke of bondage."

LESSON #2: Can you think of an area or areas of your life where you are unteachable, unbendable, and subconsciously saying "Don't confuse me with the facts. My mind is already made up."?

LESSON #3: Oswald Chambers says: "Beware of refusing to go to the funeral of your own independence."

LESSON #4: "Godliness is nothing more than God's activity in our lives. It is God Himself behaving in and through you." (Ian Thomas)

LESSON #5: Paul is saying in verse 2, it is either Christ or circumcision. You must make a choice. If you choose circumcision, Christ will benefit you nothing.

LESSON #6: The true believer is declared righteous and his righteousness is the righteousness of Christ.

LESSON #7: The law is a total unit and you cannot pick and choose the parts you want to keep. God does not grade on the curve. You break one you're guilty of all.

LESSON #8: It is either Christ or the law. You can't have both.

LESSON #9: The top priority in our lives is faith operating through love.

LESSON #10: The Lord expects us as believers to be obeying the truth.

LESSON #11: May it never be said of any of us that we "were running well."

LESSON #12: A little yeast of law can ruin the whole lump.

LESSON #13: The command in the passage is “through love keep on serving one another” (verse 13).

LESSON #14: Love and servanthood are the products of grace. “Biting and devouring” are the products of the law or the flesh (verse 15).

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER ELEVEN – UNTIL: THE FLESH STARTED LIVING ON LAW **– GALATIANS 5:16-26**

KEY VERSE 5:17

v. 16 But I am saying, walk by means of the Spirit and you will by no means fulfill the desire of the flesh.

v. 17 For the flesh is constantly having a strong desire to suppress the Spirit. And the Spirit is constantly having a strong desire to suppress the flesh. For these are opposed to one another, in order that you may not do the things that you desire to do.

v. 18 But if you are being led by the Spirit, you are not under law.

v. 19 Now the works of the flesh are plain to see, which are:

v. 20 Fornication, uncleanness, indecency, idolatry, witchcraft, enmities, strife, jealousies, wraths, factions,

v. 21 divisions, heresies, envyings, drunkenness, carousing and such like (and the things like these); of which I am forewarning you even as I did forewarn you that those who are in the habit of practicing things such as this shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

v. 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

v. 23 meekness, self-control. Against such things as these there is no law.

v. 24 Now those (who belong) of Christ Jesus crucified the flesh with its affections (passive emotions) and desires.

v. 25 If we are living by the Spirit let us also order our steps by the Spirit.

v. 26 Let us stop becoming vain-glorious, provoking one another, envying one another.

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QUESTIONS:

1. Read Galatians 5:16-26 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What command is given in verse 16?

3. What is the relationship between the “flesh” and the “Spirit” in verse 17?

4. Make a list and explain the meaning of the “works of the flesh” in verses 20 & 21.

5. Make a list of the “fruits of the Spirit” and explain them, according to verses 22 & 23.

6. What have “those who belong to Christ Jesus” done, according to verse 24?

7. How does one “order” his steps by the Spirit?

8. What command is given in verse 26?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: As soon as you introduce the law and the keeping of it to the Christian life and experience, you must also introduce the flesh. It is the flesh that is the performer. It is the Spirit that is the transformer.

LESSON #2: Dependence, submission, and obedience are involved in walking by means of the Spirit.

LESSON #3: The command of the apostle is very clear in verse 16: "But I am saying, walk by means of the Spirit and you will by no means fulfill the desire of the flesh."

LESSON #4: We can say that it is victory through dependence upon the Spirit.

LESSON #5: Within the child of God there is this tug-of-war going on between our flesh, our old nature, and the Spirit who energizes the new nature.

LESSON #6: To live for yourself is to walk after the flesh. To live for God is to walk after the Spirit.

LESSON #7: To be dominated by the flesh is to be dominated by the devil. To be dominated by the Spirit is to be controlled by God.

LESSON #8: When we are living by the law or after the flesh, the focus is off dependence and on doing. It is on performing. It is carrying out the curriculum. It is doing the demands of the law.

LESSON #9: Here in these works of the flesh we see the power of evil to take that which is good and to twist it into that which is evil. To take that which is beautiful and so deform it that it is ugly. To take the finest things and to make them avenues for sin.

LESSON #10: Paul's warning in the passage is that if you are living by the flesh and continuing to practice the things of the flesh, you shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

LESSON #11: The fruit of the Spirit's work in our lives is beautiful to behold.

LESSON #12: The Lord is longing to bear fruit through us.

LESSON #13: When we are abiding in Christ, we are depending upon all that He can do, drawing upon all that He provides, and developing into His likeness.

LESSON #14: Joy is the flag that flies from the castle when the King is in residence.

LESSON #15: If we are living by the Spirit let us also be ordering our steps by the Spirit.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER TWELVE – UNTIL: BODY FUNCTION FAILED – GALATIANS 6:1-18

KEY VERSES 6:7, 8

- v. 1 Brethren, if however a man be overtaken in a sin, you who are the spiritual ones restore such a one in a spirit of meekness, keeping an eye on yourself, lest you also should be tempted.
- v. 2 Keep on bearing one another's burdens, and so observe perfectly the law of Christ.
- v. 3 For if a man is thinking himself to be something when he is nothing, he is deceiving himself.
- v. 4 But his own work let each one put to the test, and then to himself alone he will have a ground for glorying and not to the other one.
- v. 5 For each shall bear his own burden.
- v. 6 Moreover, let the one who is being taught the word have a share with the one who is teaching in all good things.
- v. 7 Stop leading yourselves astray, God is not being sneered at: whatever a man is sowing, this also he will reap.
- v. 8 Because the one sowing unto his own flesh, from his flesh shall reap decay; But the one sowing unto the Spirit, from the Spirit shall reap life eternal.
- v. 9 Now, Let us not lose heart in doing that which is good, for at its proper season we shall reap if we are not being exhausted.
- v. 10 So then as we are having opportunity, let us be working that which is good to all but above all to those of the household of the faith.
- v. 11 You see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand.
- v. 12 As many as are desiring to make a fair show in the flesh, these are trying to compel you to receive circumcision only in order that they might not be persecuted for the cross of Christ.
- v. 13 For not even those who are having themselves circumcised are themselves keeping the law, but they are desiring you to be circumcised in order that in your flesh they may glory.

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v. 14 But far be it from me to be glorying except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom to me the world has been crucified and I to the world.

v. 15 For neither circumcision is anything or uncircumcision but a new creation.

v. 16 And as many as by this rule are ordering their steps peace be upon them and mercy even upon the Israel of God.

v. 17 As for the rest, let no man furnish me trouble for I am bearing branded on my body the marks of Jesus.

v. 18 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit brethren. Amen.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Galatians 6:1-18 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What should be our response to one who has fallen into sin as a fellow Christian, according to verse 1?

3. How do you fulfill the command of verse 2?

4. What is meant by "his own load" in verse 5?

5. Explain what Paul means in verses 7 & 8.

6. What are we commanded to do in verses 9 & 10?

7. What is Paul “glorying” in, according to verse 14?

8. What is the most important thing, according to verse 15?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: The Lord has provided the church, the body of Christ, so that we might function effectively in our witness to a lost and dying world.

LESSON #2: The church, the body of Christ, provides us with an opportunity to exercise our spiritual gift or gifts, to have a level of accountability, to learn about loyalty, and to learn about integrity.

LESSON #3: There are ten areas of challenge presented by the apostle here in chapter 6. The first two were in the end of chapter 5. Challenge #1: “If we are living by the Spirit, let us also be ordering our steps by the Spirit” (Galatians 5:25). Challenge #2: “Let us stop becoming boastful or conceited, challenging one another, envying one another” (Galatians 5:26).

LESSON #4: Challenge #3: “Brethren, if however a man be overtaken in a sin, you who are the spiritual ones restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, keeping an eye on yourself, lest you also should be tempted” (Galatians 6:1).

LESSON #5: Challenge #4: “Keep on bearing one another’s burdens” (Galatians 6:2).

LESSON #6: Challenge #5: “But his own let each one put to the test” (Galatians 6:4).

LESSON #7: Challenge #6: “Bear [our] own load” (Galatians 6:5).

LESSON #8: Challenge #7: “Let the one who is being taught the word be having a share with the one who is teaching in all good things” (Galatians 6:6).

LESSON #9: Challenge #8: “Whatever a man is sowing, this also he will reap” (Galatians 6:7).

LESSON #10: Challenge #9: “Let us not be losing heart while doing that which is good” (Galatians 6:9).

LESSON #11: Challenge #10: “Let us be working that which is good to all but especially to those of the house of the faith” (Galatians 6:10).

LESSON #12: The easiest person in the world to deceive is ourselves.

LESSON #13: Do not quit before you are finished.

LESSON #14: Use every opportunity you have to do good for others.

LESSON #15: Are you bearing any brand marks of Jesus in your flesh?

ADDITIONAL NOTES:
