

# *The Church at Galatia*

## Six Week Bible Study

### **Lesson Outline**

Lesson 1: No Other Gospel  
**(Galatians 1:6-21)**

Lesson 2: The Apostles Accept Paul's Ministry  
**(Galatians 2:1-16)**

Lesson 3: Justification By Faith  
**(Galatians 3:1-10)**

Lesson 4: Paul's Fear & Concern For The Church  
**(Galatians 4:8-20)**

Lesson 5: Walking In The Spirit  
**(Galatians 5:13-26)**

Lesson 6: Practical Teaching  
**(Galatians 6:1-15)**

### **From the Desk of Pastor Kermit Perry:**

This study "***The Church At Galatia***" is dealing with the most pressing problem in the early Church which was the relationship of new believers, particularly Gentiles, to the Jewish laws. This was especially a problem for the converts and for the young churches that Paul had founded on his first missionary journey.

Paul wrote to correct this problem. Later at the council of Jerusalem, the conflict was officially resolved by the church leaders.

It is my prayer that we will glean from the truths of this lesson and apply the principles to our lives, church, and community, that we walk freely in the liberty in which Christ has set us free. (Galatians 5:1)

## Lesson 1: No Other Gospel (Galatians 1:6-21)

*The Gospel of Jesus Christ is the gateway to all that He has for us!*

### Galatians 1:6-10

6 I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel,

7 which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ.

8 But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed.

9 As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.

10 For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ.

### Discussion Question #1&2

- What is your definition of the gospel?
- How do you know that what you believe to be the gospel is trustworthy?

### Galatians 1:11-14

11 But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man.

12 For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ.

13 For you have heard of my former conduct in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it.

14 And I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries in my own nation, being more exceedingly zealous for the traditions of my fathers.

### Discussion Question #3

- What do these verses tell us about the sovereignty of God?

### Galatians 1:15-17

15 But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb and called me through His grace,

16 to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood,

17 nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me; but I went to Arabia, and returned again to Damascus.

### Discussion Question #4

- What do you remember about God calling you to salvation?

### **Galatians 1:18-24**

18 Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and remained with him fifteen days.

19 But I saw none of the other apostles except James, the Lord's brother.

20 (Now concerning the things which I write to you, indeed, before God, I do not lie.)

21 Afterward I went into the regions of Syria and Cilicia.

22 And I was unknown by face to the churches of Judea which were in Christ.

23 But they were hearing only, "He who formerly persecuted us now preaches the faith which he once tried to destroy."

24 And they glorified God in me.

### **Discussion Question #5**

- Can you think of anyone who can testify to the new you in Christ?

### **Conclusion:**

God is constantly at work in the lives of his people that we may bring glory to His name.

### **Scripture Verse To Remember:**

*"Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."*

*II Timothy 2:15 NKJV*

## Lesson 2: The Apostles Accept Paul's Ministry (Galatians 2:1-16)

*What were some of the responses from family and friends when you accepted Christ?*

### **Galatians 2:1-10**

1 Then after fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, and also took Titus with me.

2 And I went up by revelation, and communicated to them that gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, but privately to those who were of reputation, lest by any means I might run, or had run, in vain.

3 Yet not even Titus who was with me, being a Greek, was compelled to be circumcised.

4 And this occurred because of false brethren secretly brought in (who came in by stealth to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage),

5 to whom we did not yield submission even for an hour, that the truth of the gospel might continue with you.

(Pause)

6 But from those who seemed to be something--whatever they were, it makes no difference to me; God shows personal favoritism to no man--for those who seemed to be something added nothing to me.

7 But on the contrary, when they saw that the gospel for the uncircumcised had been committed to me, as the gospel for the circumcised was to Peter

8 (for He who worked effectively in Peter for the apostleship to the circumcised also worked effectively in me toward the Gentiles),

9 and when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that had been given to me, they gave me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship, that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised.

10 They desired only that we should remember the poor, the very thing which I also was eager to do.

### **Discussion Question #1&2**

- What seems to be the problem in verses 1-5?
- How important is it to know that God does not play favorites?

### **Galatians 2:11-16**

11 Now when Peter had come to Antioch, I withstood him to his face, because he was to be blamed;

12 for before certain men came from James, he would eat with the Gentiles; but when they came, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing those who were of the circumcision.

13 And the rest of the Jews also played the hypocrite with him, so that even Barnabas was carried away with their hypocrisy.

14 But when I saw that they were not straightforward about the truth of the gospel, I said to Peter before them all, "If you, being a Jew, live in the manner of Gentiles and not as the Jews, why do you compel Gentiles to live as Jews?"

15 "We who are Jews by nature, and not sinners of the Gentiles,  
16 "knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.

### **Discussion Question #3-4**

- What was Paul accusing Peter of and was it appropriate?
- What is your definition of a hypocrite?

### **Conclusion:**

It is of the utmost importance that we as saints of the Most High God maintain the truths and the freedom and the spirit of the gospel message. It begins within the leadership of the churches and a healthy working knowledge of the Word of God.

### **Scripture Verse To Remember:**

*"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."*

*Galatians 2:20 NKJV*

## Lesson 3: Justification by Faith (Galatians 3:1-10)

*It is important to know what you believe and why you believe it!*

The word justified means “pronounced or treated as righteous.” For a Christian, justification is the act of God not only forgiving the believer’s sins but imputing to him the righteousness of Christ. The Bible states in several places that justification only comes through faith (e.g., Romans 5:1; Galatians 3:24).

Justification is not earned through our own works; rather, we are covered by the righteousness of Jesus Christ (Ephesians 2:8; Titus 3:5). The Christian, being declared righteous, is thus freed from the guilt of sin.

### **Galatians 3:1-4**

- 1 O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed among you as crucified?
- 2 This only I want to learn from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?
- 3 Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh?
- 4 Have you suffered so many things in vain--if indeed it was in vain?

### **Discussion Question #1&2**

- Do you still have the same zeal, determination, and beliefs that you had when you first came to Jesus?
- How can we avoid legalism within the church and stay free in Christ?

### **Galatians 3:5-6**

- 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.”

### **Discussion Question #3**

- Where does faith in God come from? (Romans 12:3; Romans 10:17)

### **Galatians 3:7-10**

- 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.”
- 9 So then those who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham.

10 For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse; for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them."

**Discussion Question #4-5**

- What is the blessedness that Paul is communicating in verses 8-9?
- Does good works justify a person before God? (Ephesians 2:8; James 2:8)

**Conclusion:**

Don't allow anyone, or anything, or any doctrine of man to turn you away from the truths of the Gospel message. There are many false doctrines and prophets in the world today, so stay focused on the Word of God giving Him glory, honor and praise!

**Scripture Verse To Remember:**

*"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."  
Hebrews 11:1 NKJV*

*"Now faith is the assurance (title deed, confirmation) of things hoped for (divinely guaranteed), and the evidence of things not seen [the conviction of their reality--faith comprehends as fact what cannot be experienced by the physical senses]."  
HEBREWS 11:1 AMP*

## Lesson 4: Paul's Fear & Concern for the Church (Galatians 4:8-20)

*False doctrines, teachings, complacency, legalism, politics leads to division within the church.*

### **Galatians 4:8-11**

8 But then, indeed, when you did not know God, you served those which by nature are not gods.

9 But now after you have known God, or rather are known by God, how is it that you turn again to the weak and beggarly elements, to which you desire again to be in bondage?

10 You observe days and months and seasons and years.

11 I am afraid for you, lest I have labored for you in vain.

### **Discussion Question #1&2**

- What were the gods you served before coming to Christ?
- How do we stay fired up for the Lord in these times of distractions?

### **Galatians 4:12-16**

12 Brethren, I urge you to become like me, for I became like you. You have not injured me at all.

13 You know that because of physical infirmity I preached the gospel to you at the first.

14 And my trial which was in my flesh you did not despise or reject, but you received me as an angel of God, even as Christ Jesus.

15 What then was the blessing you enjoyed? For I bear you witness that, if possible, you would have plucked out your own eyes and given them to me.

16 Have I therefore become your enemy because I tell you the truth?

### **Discussion Question #3**

- What stands out in these verses to you; hospitality, evangelism, love or concern?

### **Galatians 4:17-20**

17 They zealously court you, but for no good; yes, they want to exclude you, that you may be zealous for them.

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

19 My little children, for whom I labor in birth again until Christ is formed in you,

20 I would like to be present with you now and to change my tone; for I have doubts about you.

### **Discussion Question #4-5**

- What is the best way to determine truth from error as it relates to God's Word?
- Who is the "they" in verse 17?





**Conclusion:**

As Paul was concerned for the church at Galatia, we too should be concerned about rightly dividing the Word of Truth. It is essential for the saints today to stay rooted and grounded in The Word of God that we will not become casualties of legalism.

**Scripture Verse To Remember:**

*“For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe.”*

*1 Corinthians 1:21 NKJV*

## Lesson 5: Walking in The Spirit (Galatians 5:13-26)

### Galatians 5:13-15

13 For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

14 For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

15 But if you bite and devour one another, beware lest you be consumed by one another!

### Discussion Question #1

- When Paul speaks about liberty, what does that look like?

### Galatians 5:16-21

16 I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

17 For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.

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

19 Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness,

20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies,

21 envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

### Discussion Question #2-3

- How do you explain verse 17, the flesh lusts against the Spirit?
- What does it mean to be led by the Spirit?

### Galatians 5:22-26

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

24 And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

26 Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

### Discussion Question #4

- Why do you think love is the first thing mentioned in the fruit of the Spirit?



**Conclusion:**

Walking in the Spirit requires that we should have a made up mind and heart turned toward heaven determined to live for Jesus. It is important for us to understand what the gospel message is and the freedom that it brings to all who have placed their trust in Jesus.

**Scripture Verse To Remember:**

*“Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.*

*For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.”*

*Romans 6:12-14 NKJV*

## Lesson 6: Practical Teaching (Galatians 6:1-15)

*It's important to get down to the nuts and bolts of the Gospel?*

### **Galatians 6:1-5**

1 Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.

2 Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

3 For if anyone thinks himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself.

4 But let each one examine his own work, and then he will have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another.

5 For each one shall bear his own load.

### **Discussion Question #1-2**

- What is the first thing that come to our mind when we discover that brother has sinned?
- How important is it for us to be real with ourselves, others and God?

### **Galatians 6:6-10**

6 Let him who is taught the word share in all good things with him who teaches.

7 Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.

8 For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.

9 And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.

10 Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.

### **Discussion Question #3**

- What is your understanding of sowing and reaping, have we reaped everything that we have sowed?

### **Galatians 6:11-15**

11 See with what large letters I have written to you with my own hand!

12 As many as desire to make a good showing in the flesh, these would compel you to be circumcised, only that they may not suffer persecution for the cross of Christ.

13 For not even those who are circumcised keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may boast in your flesh.

14 But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

15 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation.

#### **Discussion Question #4**

- What is it that causes us to want to be seen and esteemed by men as holy?

#### **Conclusion:**

As Proverbs 3:5-6 admonishes us acknowledge Him in all of our ways, we should realize that is only by God's grace that we are saved and set free by the blood of Jesus and there should be no place in our heart to put undue pressure on anyone.

#### **Scripture Verse To Remember:**

*"And we have such trust through Christ toward God. Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God, who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life."*

*II Corinthians 3:4-6 NKJV*