

Session 2: Rules

Scripture questions:

Galatians 1:6-9

What have the Galatians, the recipients of this letter, done?

What strong language does Paul use? Why do you think he uses it?

Galatians 3:1-9

In what two ways can a person come into a relationship with God?

Galatians 3:10-14

How does Paul describe the Law?

Is it possible to come to God through the Law?

Galatians 4:1-11

How does the distinction between a slave and a son compare to the differences between the

Law and faith?

Galatians 5:16-26

What two categories does Paul give in this passage? What are the differences between them?

Why does this passage not just refer to certain fruit (singular), but all fruit (plural) of the Spirit?

What connection do you see between this passage and the study of Romans 8:1-4 in the last session?

The Book of Galatians explores how we, as God's people, come to God: either through the Law, or through faith.

Judaizers: Jews that followed behind Christian missionaries and warned new converts that if they wanted to be people of God, they should follow the rules of the Old Testament in addition to following Christ.

Paul explains **the difference between the Law and faith**. The people's relationship with God was restored because of their faith in Christ, not because of the Law. The Law is good if it points us to Christ and our need for grace, but it can never be a substitute for grace.

Coming to God through the Law = life of slavery

Coming to God through grace = adoption by God

Because we are created in the image of God, we have immense worth. There is nothing we can do to either increase or decrease our worth. We only need to come to God through faith. When we are transformed by faith, we resemble Christ by bearing fruit of the Spirit. It is God's expectation that we, as His people, reflect His attitudes and actions. This can only happen by dependence on the Spirit of God.

Application Questions:

What kind of requirements, intentional or unintentional, do you attach to salvation? Why?

If grace is superior to the Law, why do you think we are drawn to these rules as a way of ordering our faith and evaluating others? How can grace become superior in your life?

Since you are expected to produce the fruit of the Spirit in your life, how will you develop the areas that are lacking?

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