

Galatians – Part I

Why Is the Gospel Good News? – Galatians 1:1-12

Message Discussion Guide

Connect

- What New Testament book study has been most meaningful/helpful to you through the years? What is your go-to book when you are looking to draw closer to the Lord?

Discover

- Which statement or experience stood out to you from the worship service?
- Read Galatians 1:3-5.
 - What is the simplest way you can state the gospel in your own words?
- Read Galatians 1:6-9.
 - Why do you think Paul is so committed to maintaining the proper understanding of the gospel?
 - Why can we not update or modernize our understanding of the gospel from time to time?
 - What other “gospels” in our culture threaten our understanding of the true gospel?
- Read Acts 15:1.
 - What was wrong with what these teachers from Judea were suggesting?
- Read Matthew 3:13-17.
 - Why was John the Baptist reluctant to baptize Jesus?
 - What did Jesus mean when he said his baptism was to “fulfill all righteousness?”
 - On what basis will the father say to us, “With you, I am well-pleased?”

Respond

- In what way can it be misleading to say God gives us a second chance?
- How can we embrace what the Galatians struggled to embrace, that the gospel is not just for the beginning of the Christian life, but it is for our everyday?

Bonus for Thinkers

- Why did the Galatians so quickly ignore the gospel message taught by Paul and embrace the “salvation by works” message taught by the Judaizers? Why do we struggle with the same tendency?

First Baptist Nacogdoches Bible Reading Plan

Day	Scripture
Monday (2/3)	Galatians 1:1-12
Tuesday (2/4)	Matthew 7:1-29
Wednesday (2/5)	Matthew 8:1-27
Thursday (2/6)	Matthew 8:28-9:17
Friday (2/7)	Matthew 9:37-10:33

Daily Devotion Questions

Monday (2/3) — Galatians 1:1-12

- Review the “Respond” questions on the reverse side of this devotion guide.

Tuesday (2/4) — Matthew 7:1-29

- We are reminded in 7:4 that we can easily overlook our sins and weaknesses and focus only on those of others. Spend a minute or two and write down the weakest areas of your life. Talk with the Lord about how you can work on those areas in your life instead of criticizing others.
- 7:12 is the golden rule. We’ve heard it many times, but few people have thought through it. It says we should treat others like we wish they would treat us. So, make a list of how you wish your family members would treat you. Then write down a few things about how you wish your friends would treat you. Do the same for your co-workers and neighbors. Now you have a to-do list for how you should treat those people. This exercise will really help clarify what you should be doing.
- According to Jesus’ words in 7:21, does the reality of our relationship with God show up in the spiritual words we say or in the spiritual things we do? Why is that important?

Wednesday (2/5) — Matthew 8:1-27

- Jesus marveled at the faith of the centurion (8:10). What was so amazing about the centurion’s faith? How does your faith compare?
- People often make excuses (8:21) instead of doing what they know the Lord wants them to do. Are you allowing excuses to stand in the way of your obedience in some area? What is your most often used excuse when you don’t want to do what the Lord leads you to do?
- Read 8:23-24 closely. Did the disciples go through the storm because they were abandoning Jesus or following Jesus? What lesson do you think we can learn from this?
- According to 8:25-26, should fear be a part of a believer’s life when he or she is in the midst of difficulty? What should replace fear? How can you make sure this happens?

Thursday (2/6) — Matthew 8:28 – 9:17

- In 9:2 Jesus extends forgiveness to a paralyzed man. A few verses later, Jesus heals his paralysis. We learn from this passage that the first miracle was greater than the second. Write down all of the reasons you can think of that this is true. Spend a moment or two thanking the Lord for his forgiveness.
- We learn from 9:9-13 and other places that Jesus sought out relationships with those of questionable character in order to have influence with them. We are commanded to do the same thing. Who has the Lord put in your path that may fit this category that you could show the love of Christ?
- 9:13-14 require a close reading. It teaches us that the disciples were not supposed to fast while Jesus was with them, but today they are supposed to fast. Write out a plan of how you could skip between two or three consecutive meals spending the saved time in Bible study, prayer, and/or service. When could you do this? What do you need to do to prepare?

Friday (2/7) — Matthew 9:37 – 10:33

- Often, we pray for lost people to be saved, and that is not a bad thing to do. But how does Jesus instruct us to pray concerning lostness here in 9:37-38? Spend a minute or two and pray the way Jesus instructs.
- In the middle of some dire warnings Jesus gives the disciples about persecution, he gives some great hope in 10:19-20. Write out this encouragement in your own words.
- Re-read 10:32-33. Write out three ways you can acknowledge Christ before men today and this upcoming weekend.