



GALATIANS

BIBLE STUDY

A Four-Week Study Guide for Individuals and Groups

AGES:
16+

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INTRODUCTION

The year was 48 AD. Apostle Paul was extremely excited. He had been a devout worker of Christ for at least 12 years, ever since the Lord had appeared to him on the Road to Damascus. Now, Paul and his friend Barnabas felt they heard the voice of the Lord telling them to embark on what would become known as “Paul’s first missionary journey.”

Their plan was to begin new churches and visit any already in existence. They planned to launch the trip at a church near Paul’s home known as Syrian Antioch, then move to the Isle of Crete, because that’s where Paul’s traveling partner, Barnabas, hailed from. The first place after the Isle of Crete turned out to be a realm known to be unruly and a bit crude—called Galatia.

Galatia was not a town like Corinth or Jerusalem. It was a region, like Judea or Galilee. The Spirit led Paul and Barnabas to build churches in four cities in Galatia—starting with Pisidian Antioch, followed by Iconium, Lystra and Derbe.

But at the start, Paul had no idea that his journeys would take him to the Galatian churches four times at least. And while visiting, he would be stoned, left for dead, beaten and arrested. People would try to worship him after he healed a paralyzed man, and then they would throw him and Barnabas out of a town and tell them never to come back.

Despite all this, Paul’s persistence in loving these folks was amazing. And he set the record straight when the Galatians became besieged by Judaizers. These tricksters held to a legalistic heresy so slick that even Apostles Peter and John fell for it at first, a story Paul tells exclusively in Galatians! This plague had reached the homeland and Jerusalem.

That’s why Paul wrote Galatians. He was on the attack against legalism so that Gentiles wouldn’t become scared to death of the gospel, and Jews would have no opportunity to let their egos grow even bigger and become more vain.

How this Study Works

Galatians only has six chapters, but with every passage teeming with life, this beloved book will still cover a one-month study. Additional days will cover important background subjects, such as readings from the Book of Acts that correspond with the Galatians, plus background that will make the people of Galatia come to life for us today!

You will have five days of study each week, with one of those days dedicated to the Week in Review section, for a total of 20 days of study. That is the equivalent of a Monday-through-Friday work week all month, but of course you can use Saturday just by being flexible! Take more or less time as needed—the goal is to finish and come to love the Galatians like Paul did.

Despite all its comprehensive materials, the study is neither difficult nor terribly time-consuming. A day's work can be done in half an hour, but it can take up to an hour, depending on how much time you'd like to give to the Application Questions about that day's chapter. The study is designed to be highly individualized, good for small groups and cell groups, but also fine for an individual just looking to improve their knowledge base.

What's to be done each day?

Our Table of Contents, preceding this intro, shows the comprehensive list of chapters that will be covered in the course. Each day of the month-long study is clearly marked so that you'll always know where to pick up.

Each day you will complete the following mini-segments:

- **DAILY READING:** You will read either one chapter a session or one of the three additions.
- **SHORT-ANSWER QUESTIONS:** You'll be given six questions that require either filling in the blanks, picking a multiple-choice answer, or answering true/false. This extra gleaning will reinforce the material you read that day. Each verse is provided where the answer can be found, and the answers are also included for the short answers.
- **APPLICATION QUESTIONS:** You'll receive either two or three of these longer questions daily, which require more thought and written answers. These are often an effort to get students to think of the passage in terms of how it affects them in postmodern times. These are highly subjective, so they don't come with answers, but you'll find some are covered in the ANSWERS section under APPLICATIONS HELP. Some questions will not require any help while others will contain prompts, explanations, or further information.
- **FURTHER READING:** Here scriptures are presented as recommended reading on one of the subjects covered in the day's chapter. The readings often include one passage from the Old Testament and one from the New. But sometimes both Further Reading passages are from the New Testament as Apostle Paul is busy with concepts that are new to the converts.
- **ANSWERS & HELP:** The Short-Answer Questions are answered here, along with bits of insight on answering the Application Questions.

What Are the MOST POPULAR VERSES, and What TRANSLATION OF THE BIBLE Do You Use?

We try to create studies in ways that any version of the Bible can be used. Nonetheless we gravitate to the two most popular so as to keep with common language to examine difficult constructs, and this study was created using the KJV (King James Version) and the NIV (New International Version). The most popular scriptures are derived by software that recognizes how many times a scripture is searched on popular websites. Each of the 30,000+ scriptures has a ranking number. At present, the #1 position goes to John 3:16. The lowest is likely in Leviticus, where rankings appear in the 31,000s!

With just a little time each day this month, you will have a wonderful opportunity to know well the Book of Galatians. By the end of the month, you will have a much better idea of similar heresies floating around today that the Galatians had to deal with. You'll have more discernment, as the Lord tests your strength and persistence, to reach the end of your race and receive your prize.



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GALATIANS

Introduction to Galatians



WEEK 1

The 4-1-1 of Galatians

Let's look at the big picture of church history and see how the churches in Galatia can speak to us today. At the time of Paul's first missionary journey, more than 12 years after the Crucifixion and Resurrection, people were already examining a wide variety of views about Jesus. Study this material and answer questions in the Day 1 Quiz that follows.

USE YOUR MAP and circle cities mentioned to help with the Day 1 Quiz questions.

BOOK FACTS

Order in New Testament:

9

Number of Chapters:

6

Type:

Epistle / Pauline

When Written:

60-61 AD

Where Written:

Probably the City of Ephesus

When Written:

49-55 AD

*See Question 9 of the FAQ below
for further insight.*

Author:

Apostle Paul

1 CORINTHIANS FAQ

1. What was Galatia like physically and geographically in the days of Christ?

Galatia was a region, like Judea or Galilee, but farther north and to the west. Jerusalem is just west of the Great Sea (now known as the Mediterranean), and Galatia was above and to the east.

Galatia was made up partially of Celts who migrated to their Galatian location from Gaul, just over 300 years before the birth of Christ. Over 280,000 people migrated, though the reasons are not certain. Gaul may have been overpopulated.

Gaul had been comprised of what would be the modern-day countries of France, parts of Belgium, western Germany, and northern Italy. Galatia is located in modern-day Turkey.

2. What were the Galatian people like? The Celtic population that migrated

from Gaul had managed to retain its northern-European identity amidst the many Hellenists in Galatia. Other migrating peoples bowed much more easily to the Hellenist gods and the culture. Hence, the Celts had a reputation of being ferocious. But they seemed to draw respect in their mercenary dealings. The area usually did well financially while

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also being known as more of a throughway than a stop for economic or cultural interests.

- 3. What did Paul do while in Galatia?** Paul helped establish at least four churches, including those in Pisidian Antioch (not to be confused with Syrian Antioch), Lystra, Derbe, and Iconium.
- 4. How often did Paul visit the Galatians?** While some seedling churches in the known world were only able to experience an Apostle's visit once or twice, Galatia saw Paul at least four times—once on each of his three missionary journeys, through which he was known to double back to this region.
- 5. Why so many visits?** The primary reason Paul visited Galatia so often may be its location. Galatia was a steppingstone out of Paul's home region of Cilicia (Tarsus was not in Syria at that time) to many other places he helped start churches. After winding through Galatia, he could get to Macedonia to the west and then Greece to the south (location of the church of Corinth).

Note: See this by looking at your map. Find Paul's home of Tarsus in Cilicia and check out the distance between his home area and the four towns in Galatia where Paul helped plant churches.

- 6. What happened to Paul in Galatia?** Paul's adventures in the region began almost immediately. He and companion Barnabas visited Iconium where Jews threatened them with stoning. They left for Lystra where Paul was able to heal a crippled man. Instead of this being seen as an incredible blessing from God, the people who witnessed the miracle attempted to worship Paul and Barnabas. Paul understood so well the history of people worshipping items instead of the Creator that he found this even more abhorrent than the threat of being stoned.
- 7. Is it true that Paul was stoned in Galatia and left for dead?** This is true. Both Paul and Barnabas were stoned when the Jews from Iconium eventually found them. Paul's lifeless body was brought out of Lystra, but miraculously, both men lived. They left for Derbe the next day and preached the gospel there.
- 8. What happened on Paul's journeys to Galatia that corresponded with his second and third missionary journeys?** No further Galatian misadventures involving this level of drama were recorded on Paul's second or third missionary journeys—only the stops themselves. However, he and Barnabas were full of the Holy Spirit and were still courageous enough to revisit all the four churches, doubling back on their way home of the first journey. No harm came to them there after the first mission, though Paul had plenty of drama in other regions.
- 9. Is the rumor true that Galatians was the first epistle Paul wrote?** It is uncertain! While Galatians holds the honor of being first in some scholar's opinions, others believe Paul wrote 1 and 2 Thessalonians before tackling Galatians. With the theory that Galatians was written first, at around 49 AD, Paul would have written it between his first and second missionary journeys during an extended stay in Jerusalem. If it was written from Ephesus on Paul's third missionary journey, the year would have been around 54 AD. Many scholars believe this hypothesis, with both theories placing its date between 49-54 AD.
- 10. What happened that caused Paul to write to the Galatians?** The Galatians got snagged in a bit of mischief so sly that even Apostles Peter and John believed in its initial rectitude. The propagators were called "Judaizers." Their doctrine insisted that while Gentiles were welcome to believe in Jesus, to experience salvation, they would need to become Jews first. Today we generally think of Jewish traditions like circumcision as useful for sanitation purposes, and it's generally not off-putting. But consider that Judaization meant that adult males, for whom the tradition was quite foreign or even unheard of, would have to go through the painful and even

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humiliating procedure, just to believe in Jesus.

- 11. Were the Judaizers singular to Galatia?** No—in fact the doctrine was spreading all over Christendom. Paul covers a confrontation in Galatians 2 of having found out that Peter and John were actually supporting this doctrine. When Peter came north to visit Syrian Antioch, Paul confronted Peter to his face, asking flat out, “Why are you putting laws on the Gentiles that not even we were able to uphold?”
- 12. Were there any other issues Paul wrote about in Galatians?** Paul found early on that he was always going to have a challenge getting people to believe him—not only about Jesus, but about his own credentials which enabled him to be considered an Apostle. The detail with which he goes into his own story for the Galatians reflects one of many times he would be doubted. In fact, he was first doubted by the Apostles themselves, none of whom were present when Jesus first spoke to Paul on the Road to Damascus.
- 13. How did the Galatians eventually respond to Paul’s letter?** We can assume that they responded well and repented along with all in Christendom who initially followed it, as the doctrine soon became a thing of the past, perhaps before Paul saw martyrdom.
- 14. How did Apostle Paul die?** After being released from house arrest in Rome, Paul only lived another year or two. He was martyred in the early 60s AD during the reign of Nero. It is believed Nero had him rearrested and decapitated. It is also part of early church lore that he and Apostle Peter died in close proxy—if not on the same day, in the same mood-swing, the likes of which made Nero infamous to this day.



Introductory Day 1 Quiz

Fill in the answers to the material presented in today's introductory material: the 4-H about Galatia:

1. Galatia is (a) a city, (b) a region, (c) a capital, (d) a continent
2. The Celts came down from this area, made of modern-day countries of France, parts of Belgium, western Germany, and northern Italy: _____
3. The migration from Europe down to Galatia took place around this many years before the birth of Christ: _____
4. Galatia is located in this modern-day country: _____
5. The Galatian Celts had a reputation as being
 - a. Quaint
 - b. Intellectual
 - c. Ferocious
6. True/False Paul visited Galatia on all three of his missionary journeys.
7. Paul healed a man unable to walk while in this town: _____
8. After being stoned and left for dead, Paul and Barnabas traveled the next day to this Galatian town: _____
9. These two epistles may have been written before Galatians: _____
10. A legalistic error had taken hold in Galatia, which was started by a group of people known by this name: _____



An Overview of Apostle Paul's Trips to Galatia (His Three Missionary Journeys)

As Paul visited the Galatians on all three of his missionary journeys, they become important in understanding the issues of the day. Read these brief accounts of all Paul's missionary journeys. (Note: they do not include Rome as Paul went there after his third missionary journey had concluded.) Questions follow.

Don't feel the need to look up the references up in Acts today. However, you can keep the missionary-journey visuals as a tool to help you remember some important events in Apostle Paul's ministry.

USE YOUR MAP. While reading, circle or put an X on the places Paul journeyed that are mentioned. It can help you visualize much of what he went through for the Galatians and others.

PAUL'S FIRST MISSIONARY JOURNEY: 6-9 MONTHS IN 48 AD

Paul was accompanied by a man from Cyprus known as Barnabas on this journey

1. Paul and Barnabas are told by the Holy Spirit to start their missionary journey. (Acts 13:2-3)
2. Paul and Barnabas start their first missionary journey in 48 AD, traveling first to Cyprus. While there, they preach at Salamis and Paphos. (Acts 13:5-12)
3. They leave for Perga in the region Pamphylia. (Acts 13:13)
4. Paul and Barnabas head into Galatia. The first synagogue they speak in is Antioch of Pisidia. (Acts 13:14-50)
5. The pair visited Iconium, but rumor had it people were looking to stone them. So they left for Lystra where Paul was able to heal a crippled man. The people who witnessed the miracle attempted to worship them as if they were gods. (Acts 14:6-7)
6. The Jews from Iconium found the two men in Lystra and stoned them. Paul's lifeless body was supposedly brought out of Lystra, but both he and Barnabas were able to go back to the city alive. They left for Derbe the next day and preached the gospel there. (Acts 14:20-21)
7. The pair retraced their steps, going back to Lystra, Iconium, and reaching Antioch in spite of the grave danger. They encouraged the young churches there. (Acts 14:21-24)
8. Paul and Barnabas returned to Syrian Antioch to end the journey. (Acts 14:26)

PAUL'S SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY, 6-9 MONTHS IN 50 AD

1. Due to an argument Paul had with Barnabas that is recorded in Acts 15, Paul was accompanied on his second missionary journey by a man named Silas, who was considered a subordinate to Paul but who shared in all his misadventures with faith and joy.
2. This missionary journey started differently as Paul and Silas travelled by land rather than starting by boat. So they were in Galatia shortly after their start. They met up with Paul's devoted servant Timothy who helped on this leg of the journey. They visited Derbe and Lystra, and ministered in each church. (Acts 16:1-5)
3. Paul, Silas, and Timothy continued in their renewing of Christian faith journeying north to Troas, which was on the far side of the region of Myasia. In other words, thanks to the Holy Spirit, they skipped over dozens of towns in that region. They then continued into Macedonia, visiting Neapolis, Philippi, Amphipolis, and Apollonia. (Acts 16:1-5;17:1)
4. Their first convert in Philippi was Lydia, who was a slave girl whom they saved from a demon. This act had them put in jail. However, Paul and Silas were able to convert the keeper of the prison. (Acts 16:16-25)
5. Still in Macedonia, they left Philippi and went to Thessalonica. They once again had to escape due to the commotion their presence had upon the Jews there.

PAUL'S THIRD MISSIONARY JOURNEY, AD 54-56

This time, Paul took a married couple with him, at least as far as Ephesus in Asia. They were Priscilla and Aquilla, whom he met in Acts 18, and they had recently come from Italy because Claudius had ordered all Jews to leave Rome. They were fellow tentmakers like Paul.

1. Paul's first stops were in Galatia.
2. Paul headed to Ephesus in Asia and baptized a few followers there. He then started a ministry in the area and stayed for an extended period. It was from here that many scholars believe Paul wrote to the Galatians. The Galatians may have been the second group Paul wrote to. Also while in Ephesus, he wrote both letters to the Thessalonians.
3. Paul strengthened the ministries in all the places he had helped found churches. (Acts 20:1-38; 21:1-14)

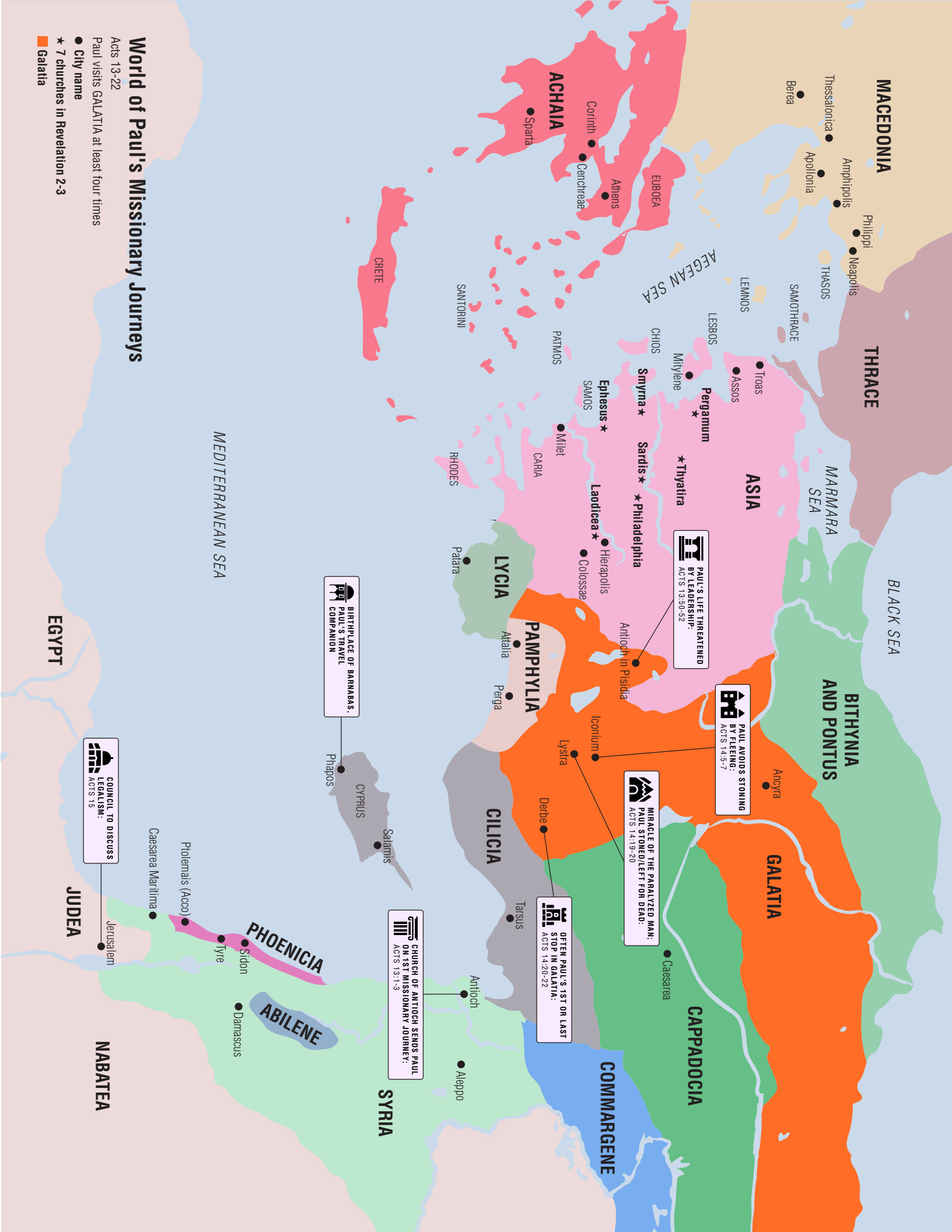
World of Paul's Missionary Journeys

Acts 13-22

Paul visits GALATIA at least four times

- City name
- ★ 7 churches in Revelation 2-3

Galatia





Day 2 Quiz on the Life of Apostle Paul

Fill in the answers below concerning today's reading on Paul's missionary journeys and Galatia:

1. Paul's companion Barnabas, on his first missionary journey, hailed from this famous island: _____
2. The first city Paul spoke in after entering Galatia: _____
3. After Paul healed the crippled man, people tried to do this, which horrified him:

4. The people scheming to stone Paul found him and Barnabas in this town:

5. Paul's companion on his second missionary journey was this man: _____
6. The two met up with this famed disciple of Paul's, who has two Epistles named after him: _____
7. The Holy Spirit led Paul and companions to skip over this big region without preaching the gospel there: _____
8. Paul then visited the cities of Neapolis, Philippi, Amphipolis, and Apollonia, which are in this region: _____
9. As they headed into what is now Europe, their first convert was a woman by this name: _____
10. On Paul's third missionary journey, his first stop was here: _____



Acts 13 & 14: Paul Meets the Galatians; Trouble Ensues Immediately

READ ACTS 13 & 14

Days 3 and 4 of this week, you'll be reading background material that will help you further understand Paul's letter to the Galatians. Paul's three missionary journeys are all covered in the Book of Acts. Today's and tomorrow's readings will give you a chance to see the big picture of his work and where Galatia fit into all of it. Chapters 13 and 14 correspond with Paul's first missionary journey.

If you have not already, circle or X the Galatian towns of Pisidian Antioch, Iconium, Lystra, and Derbe, when you come to them in the reading. It will help you answer the questions below.

TEXT QUESTIONS

- 01 In 13:14, we find Paul arriving at the first Galatian town: _____.
- 02 In the section that follows, from verses 16-41, Paul basically gave the parishioners here a shortened history of this nation: _____.
- 03 This group of believers kept trying to turn people against Paul and Barnabas, according to verse 50: _____.
- 04 Verse 14:3 has many people believing Paul because of these: _____ and _____.
- 05 The man born lame whom Paul healed was from this town, according to verse 14:8 _____.
- 06 People came there from Iconium and Pisidian Antioch to stone Paul and Barnabas. Miraculously, they left for this fourth town the following day, according to 14:20: _____.
- 07 True/False: Paul and Barnabas then went immediately home after the stoning, according to verse 14:21.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

We will have **APPLICATION QUESTIONS** for each day during the remainder of the study. They require more thought and sometimes a relevancy question to today's world. If you need help, see below, the important section of **APPLICATION HELP**.

- 01** Review Acts 13:20-52. Here, the opposition against the disciples grew from jealousy to persecution. What do the disciples' response in verse 52 teach us about how we can respond to opposition in our own life? Are there similarities between the persecution the disciples faced and the persecution we may face today?

- 02** Review Acts 14:15. Here the people of Lystra are preparing to sacrifice oxen to Paul and Barnabas. Paul was religiously and culturally worlds apart from the Greeks in Lystra, so what do you think he mean when he said he was just like them? In what ways are all humans the same? And how does this mean we should interact with those that are different than us?



Acts 15 & 16: The False Doctrine Paul Fought & His 2nd Missionary Journey

READ ACTS 15 & 16

Chapter 15 is where we begin to see the doctrine that stumped even the Apostles, as you will read about later in Galatians itself. Acts 16 covers Paul's second missionary journey, wherein he visited Galatia again. Use your map to track his trip through Galatia and other places.

TEXT QUESTIONS

- 01 In verse 1 we find people believing that if men want to be truly saved, they must also be put through this ceremonial ritual: _____.
- 02 True/False: In verses 15:7-11, Apostle Peter was still against letting Gentiles worship with them who remained uncircumcised.
- 03 After Paul and Barnabas could not agree on whether to take John Mark on their second journey, Paul ended up going with this man instead, according to verse 15:40: _____.
- 04 This famous disciple of Paul's, later thought of as a son, was first discovered in the Galatian town of Lystra, according to verse 16:1: _____.
- 05 True/False: According to 16:4-5, the Galatian churches lost a lot of people after the decision was made not to count circumcision as part of salvation.
- 06 After leaving Galatia, the Holy Spirit would not open the door for Paul to speak in this region, according to verses 16:7-8: _____.
- 07 In Acts 16:16-23, we find Paul and Barnabas being beaten with rods for having done this to a female slave: _____.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

We will have **APPLICATION QUESTIONS** for each day during the remainder of the study. They require more thought and sometimes a relevancy question to today's world. If you need help, see below, the important section of **APPLICATION HELP**.

- 01** Review Acts 15:6-11. Circumcision was considered part of the law for Jews, but this law not applied to the Gentiles. What does this teach us about the purpose of the law? Can anyone be made righteous by keeping the law? Why not? How were these Jewish believers taking away the grace of salvation?

- 02** In chapter 16, we find that Timothy had a good reputation as a Christian and people spoke highly of him, so much that his reputation extended beyond his hometown. How important is good reputation today? Has its importance diminished in society over the years? Why or why not?



Week 1 in Reveiw

FROM DAY 1

You learned a lot of facts about Galatia and Apostle Paul on Day 1. List a few things you did not know before and that will help you understand Paul's relationship with Galatia better.

FROM DAY 2

Paul's challenges started almost immediately on his journeys, as the Jews sparked gossip and looked for opportunities to stone him and Barnabas. Thank goodness most of us are not facing this type of threat right now, but we do face persecution. Think of something for which you have been persecuted or even "picked on" that has to do with your faith. How did you handle it? **What might be some other appropriate ways to respond?**

FROM DAY 3

Paul began this lengthy defense of Jesus being the Messiah by giving a history of the Jews. This likely would not work for us today trying to defend the gospel, as most of our listeners are not Jewish and those who are Jewish may not even know their own history if it was presented. How would you start a defense of Jesus as Messiah in a small group of friends who may not know Him? What type of information would you include?

FROM DAY 4

Some well-intending leaders today try to include altar calls as a ritual part of salvation, a experience when people are asked to come forward in front of the congregation and make a public confession of faith in Christ. In what ways could this be unhelpful or even spiritually unhealthy?



Fill-in-the-Blank Answers

FROM DAY 1

1. (b) a region
2. Gaul
3. 300
4. Turkey
5. C. ferocious
6. True
7. Lystra
8. Derbe
9. 1 and 2 Thessalonians
10. Judaizers

MAP HELP

On your map, regions such as Galatia are labeled with all capital letters, while cities within the regions only have the first letter capitalized. For example, on your map Pisidian Antioch is a city in GALATIA.

Be aware that there are two "Antiochs" in Paul's travels. The first, Syrian Antioch, was a home base for Paul as it was close to Tarsus, his hometown. The second, Pisidian Antioch, is farther north and actually in Galatia. The two Antiochs are not always differentiated in Bible stories. But the first Antioch spoken of in chapter 13:1 is Syrian Antioch. The final Antioch referred to at the end of Chapter 14 also is Syrian Antioch.

FROM DAY 2

1. Cyprus
2. Pisidian Antioch
3. Worship him
4. Lystra
5. Silas
6. Timothy
7. Myasia
8. Macedonia
9. Lydia
10. Galatia

MAP HELP

The map helps us to see how extensive Paul's work within Galatia actually was. While he visited Galatia on all three missionary journeys, he also doubled back to see the people there twice on at least one of those journeys.

FROM DAY 3

1. Pisidian Antioch
2. Israel
3. Jewish Leadership
4. Signs and Wonders
5. Lystra
6. Derbe
7. False: They doubled back in spite of the danger, revisiting Lystra, Iconium and Pisidian Antioch to encourage them.

MAP HELP

You will start noticing, especially tomorrow, that the words "up" and "down" seem backwards in biblical texts, as the writers used the words differently than mapmakers of today. For example, in Acts 15:1, you'll see the text reading that "certain people came DOWN from Judea to Antioch and were teaching the believers," when clearly, Antioch is NORTH of Jerusalem. The reasons are complicated and not relative to this text. But if you substitute "down" for "up" and vice versa, you will find things more easily.

Often towns in ancient times bore the same name, such as the two Antiochs. In another example, there is also a Seleucia on the Tigris River, father to the east, that lies in the area of Bagdad. If you're Googling some of these points of interest, please note it is a different Seleucia than the reference in verse 13:4.

FROM DAY 4

1. Circumcision
2. False
3. Silas
4. Timothy
5. False
6. Mysia
7. They drove a demon out of her that had enabled her to tell the future and bring fortunes to her owners.



GALATIANS

Galatians 1-2:11-21



WEEK 2

Galatians 1:1-10: Paul Is Disappointed

READ GALATIANS 1:1-10

"I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel..." Galatians 1:6

Today we start the actual reading of Galatians! See what Paul has to say to these spirited people and try to figure out why his tension was so great.

TEXT QUESTIONS

- 01 Paul says in verse 1 that he wasn't sent by men, but by _____ and _____.
- 02 Paul wishes _____ and _____ for the Galatians from God the Father and Jesus Christ. (v. 3)
- 03 Jesus gave Himself for our sins according to the _____ of God. (v. 4)
- 04 According to verse 6, God had called the Galatians to live in the _____ of Christ.
- 05 According to verse 7, the people who are confusing the Galatians are trying to _____ the gospel of Christ.
- 06 True/False: We shouldn't even trust an angel who gives us a different gospel from the one we are given in scripture (v. 8)

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- 01** In verse 1, Paul states that he is an apostle of Jesus Christ. Why do you think it is so important that Paul shares this as a way of greeting the Galatians before the rest of his message? What do we learn from this verse about what an apostle is, and why does this matter?

- 02** Look at verse 7. Here, Paul is warning about a different or false gospel, speaking specifically of the Judaizers who believed all believers needed to be Jews before they could become Christians. What kind of “false gospels” exist today? And how can we avoid them so that we are living the gospel based in truth?

Further reading on the virtue of PERSISTENCE growing in God's children: James 1:1-27, Rom. 12:12



Galatians 1:11-24: Paul's Chronic Challenge with Credentials

READ GALATIANS 1:11-24

"I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel I preached is not of human origin."
Galatians 1:11

TEXT QUESTIONS

- 01 True/False: The gospel that Paul preaches came to him from Jesus Christ Himself, not man. (v. 12)
- 02 Before Paul was a Christian, he _____ the Church of God. (v. 13)
- 03 In verse 14, Paul says that before he was a Christian, he was extremely _____ for the Jewish traditions.
- 04 According to verse 15, Paul was set apart and called by what? _____
- 05 True/False: Paul did not immediately consult anyone after Christ revealed Himself to him on the road to Damascus. (v. 16)
- 06 True/False: Peter was the first Apostle that Paul met with. (v. 18)

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- 01** Review verse 11, where Paul states that the gospel does not have human origin. How does this knowledge help us have unshakeable confidence in it?

- 02** The rest of the chapter focuses on all that happened to Paul before he even laid eyes on many of the Lord's disciples. How might this reflect God's preparation and timing in our lives? And what does this teach us about patience?

Further reading on the virtue of PATIENCE growing in God's children:

Psalm 37:7-9, Romans 5:3-4, Hebrews 10:36



Galatians 2:1-10: Paul Defends the Gentiles

READ GALATIANS 2:1-10

"This matter arose because some false believers had infiltrated our ranks to spy on the freedom we have in Christ Jesus and to make us slaves." Galatians 2:4

TEXT QUESTIONS

- 01 Who did Paul take with him to Jerusalem? (v. 1) _____ and _____.
- 02 According to verse 2, Paul went to Jerusalem in response to a _____.
- 03 In verse 5, Paul says that they did not give in to the false believers in order to preserve the _____ of the _____.
- 04 True/False: God sometimes shows favoritism. (v. 6)
- 05 Which three Apostles gave Paul and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship and sent them off to preach to the Gentiles? (v. 9) _____, _____ and _____.
- 06 What was the only thing that the Apostles asked Paul and Barnabas to do? (v. 10) _____.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- 01** “Those esteemed leaders” Paul mentions in verse 2 likely included some of the original Apostles. Paul may have waited to meet some of the original Apostles until fourteen years after his salvation experience. How does Paul’s timeline inspire you to wait for prayers to be answered?

- 02** In verse 7 Paul states that he was entrusted with preaching the gospel. What tasks has God entrusted you with? And how have you been faithfully fulfilling them? How might you improve?

Further reading on the importance of **UNITY** in churches: 1 Corinthians 1:10, Ephesians 4:1-6



Galatians 2:11-21: Did the Apostles Really Argue??

READ GALATIANS 2:11-21

"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."

Galatians 2:20

TEXT QUESTIONS

- 01 True/False: According to verse 12, Peter quit eating with the Gentiles because of fear.
- 02 According to verse 13, even _____ was led astray by the circumcision group.
- 03 In verse 14, Paul says that Peter and the others were not acting according to the _____ of the gospel.
- 04 According to verse 16, we are not _____ by works of the Law.
- 05 In verse 20, Paul says that it is no longer he who lives, but _____ lives in him.
- 06 True/False: Righteousness does not come by the Law, but by faith in Christ Jesus.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- 01** In these verses, Paul confronts Cephas, who is actually the Apostle Peter. How can this situation inspire you to pray for peace and restoration among some of today's churches or church members, seeing how argumentative and divisive was then between the Gentiles and Jews?

- 02** Verse 20 is one of the most famous passages in the entire Bible of 31,000+ verses, with a ranking of only 71! What makes the verse so special? And how does it speak to you today?

Further reading on putting to death DEEDS OF THE FLESH: 2 Peter 1:3-8, Romans 8:5



Week 2 in Review

Use these Week-In-Review questions for personal growth, group discussion, or both. There are no right or wrong answers; just opportunities to further flesh out the passages of this week and share those insights if possible.

FROM DAY 1

Having been stoned, beaten with rods, and jailed on Galatian turf, Paul's resilience for these people can be quite an inspiration. Can you think of anyone whom you could love more, even though it may seem impossible? How does Paul's relentlessness inspire you to respond or reach out with love?

FROM DAY 2

In verses 11-13, Paul caught Peter in a bit of hypocrisy. Many of us are aware of fault or hypocrisy in our own lives. How might the situation between Peter and Paul inspire you to make a change?

FROM DAY 3

Christians are often put to the test by nonbelievers and are called upon to defend their beliefs, especially now with social media,. How can you use this example in Galatians 2:6-8 to bring peace to arguments?

FROM DAY 4

Apply Galatians 2:20 to your own life. What does it mean in your personal life? Is there anything you'd like to tweak or improve so that you are seeking what is above?



GALATIANS

Galatians 1-2:11-21

Fill-in-the-Blank Answers

FROM DAY 1

1. Jesus Christ, God the Father
2. Grace, peace
3. Will
4. Grace
5. Pervert
6. True

FROM DAY 2

1. True
2. Persecuted
3. Zealous
4. God's grace
5. True
6. True

FROM DAY 3

1. Barnabas, Titus
2. Revelation
3. Truth, Gospel
4. False
5. James, Cephas, John
6. Remember the poor

FROM DAY 4

1. True
2. Barnabas
3. Truth
4. Justified
5. Christ
6. True

APPLICATION HELP

Today's reading features this intriguing situation of when Apostle Paul called Apostle Peter on the carpet for putting weights on the Gentile's backs that the Jews could not even carry. Obviously Peter acquiesced as the passages from Acts 15 showed us last week. This was not Paul's first argument with the Apostles. Acts 9:26-27 covers their first meeting, around 12 years earlier, when the Apostles took a while to believe Paul was a true convert. Between the Galatians and the Apostles themselves, we are seeing a whole lot of arguing, which ought to inspire us to help make peace in today's divisive world.



GALATIANS

Galatians 3-4:21-31



WEEK 3

Galatians 3:1-14: Wow–Paul Gets Harsh!

READ GALATIANS 3:1-14

"You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? Before your very eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed as crucified." Galatians 3:1

TEXT QUESTIONS

- 01 After starting off in the Spirit, the Galatians are now trying to be made perfect by the _____. (v. 3)
- 02 According to verse 6, Abraham was considered righteous because he _____ God.
- 03 In verse 7, Paul says that the true children of Abraham are those who have _____.
- 04 According to verse 10, anyone who relies on the works of the Law are under a _____.
- 05 "The righteous will live by _____." (v. 11)
- 06 According to verse 14, Christ redeemed us so that we could receive the promise of the _____ through faith.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- 01** We often have a very hard time believing that we don't have to "do something" in order to earn God's salvation, specifically following God's law or other religious rules. What do verses 11-12 teach us about the law and our motivations for obedience to them?

- 02** Review verse 8 again. What do we learn from this important verse about God's plan to take the gospel to the Gentiles? What does this teach us about God's mission and His love for everyone today?

Further reading on Freedom versus Slavery to Sin: Romans 8:1-39



Galatians 3:15-29: We Need to Follow the Law of Love

READ GALATIANS 3:15-29

"There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, neither male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." Galatians 3:28

TEXT QUESTIONS

- 01 According to verse 16, the promise was made to Abraham and his _____.
- 02 Who is the Seed of Abraham spoken of in Genesis? (v. 16) _____.
- 03 According to verse 17, the Law was introduced _____ years after the covenant was established.
- 04 True/False: The Law does not undo the covenant previously established by God.
- 05 According to verse 18, the inheritance depends on the _____ that God gave to Abraham by His grace.
- 06 The Law was given because of _____.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

01 The very existence of the Law is a little hard to understand for those raised in Christian environments. We don't have to chronically think about what we are doing, but we DO have to practice the Laws of Love that Jesus talked about in Matthew 22:40. Why should we have to practice the Laws of Love if we are free from the Law?

02 In verse 24, Paul calls the law a guardian. The Law could teach us a lot about what love looks like, because many laws are examples of how love and care can be expressed. How do some of society's laws show love? Your example can have to do with littering, animals, children, neighbors, etc.

Further reading on the value of the Law: Rom. 7:7-12, Deut. 22:1-6 (examples of the Law showing love)



Galatians 4:1-20: Abba Father!

READ GALATIANS 4:1-20

"Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, 'Abba, Father.'" Galatians 4:6

TEXT QUESTIONS

- 01 Christ came to redeem us so that we may receive _____ to sonship. (v. 5)
- 02 According to verse 6, the Spirit of Christ in us calls out _____, Father.
- 03 According to verse 7, we are not only God's children, but _____.
- 04 In verse 14, Paul says that the Galatians welcomed him as if he were an _____ from God.
- 05 Paul says in verse 15, that the Galatians would have taken out their own _____ and given them to him if they could.
- 06 In verse 19, Paul says that he is in the pains of childbirth

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- 01** Review verses 4-7. Here Paul states that God is our Father. How does viewing God as our father change how we see our relationship with Him? What are the benefits to being in the family of God? As heirs of God, what inheritance do we stand to receive?

- 02** Verses 8-14 make us aware that the Galatians worshipped false gods before worshipping Christ, and thus they were slaves to those gods. Today we may find ourselves worshipping items, or loving other things more than God. What kind of things might these be? Do you struggle with any in particular? How can we make sure we are putting God first in our lives?

Further reading on Wolves in Sheep's Clothing: Matthew 7:15-23, Romans 16:17-18, 2 Corinthians 11:13-15



Galatians 4:21-31: Two Covenants; One Truth

READ GALATIANS 4:21-31

"I am taking these things figuratively, for the women represent two covenants. One covenant is from Mount Sinai and bears children who are to be slaves: This is Hagar." Galatians 4:24

TEXT QUESTIONS

- 01 Abraham's son by the slave woman was born according to the _____. (v. 23)
- 02 Abraham's son by the free woman was born as a result of the _____. (v. 23)
- 03 According to verse 24, Sarah and Hagar represent the two _____.
- 04 According to verse 25, Hagar stands for _____, the present Jerusalem.
- 05 But Sarah represents the Jerusalem that is _____, the one that is free. (v. 26)
- 06 Paul says in verse 31, that we are not children of the slave woman, but of the _____ woman.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

01 Abraham's approach to the birth of Ishmael and Isaac can represent different ways of relating to God. One way is through human effort and law, and the other is through God's grace and faith. How can we avoid living by our own efforts and the law rather than by God's grace and faith?

02 In verse 31, Paul refers to the people of Galatia as children of the free woman. Are we children of the free woman as well? If so, what does this freedom mean, especially in practical and every day terms?

Further reading on THE LAW and God's intentions: John 1:17, Romans 13:10, Matthew 7:12



Week 3 in Reveiw

Use these Week-In-Review questions for personal growth, group discussion, or both. There are no right or wrong answers; just opportunities to further flesh out the passages of this week and share those insights if possible.

FROM DAY 1

Paul's speech to the Galatians turns in Chapter 3 to become about as frank as a lecture can be. We have talked about pride being a supreme issue in some cases. What are other issues that cause legalism? What have you thought of to avoid them?

FROM DAY 2

The Further Reading section of Day 2 involved Deuteronomy 22:10. In what other ways could our laws be better today to protect animals from harm...as well as people from having compromised health from eating them?

FROM DAY 3

Christians are known to have lots of fun thinking of God as "Abba Father." How does it bring you joy or ease anxiety to imagine God as your father?

FROM DAY 4

Have you ever been told you must "do something" to complete your salvation? It could also have been something you were told to avoid, such as a food or beverage; or something to add, like a head covering. What was it, and how are you responding?



Fill-in-the-Blank Answers

FROM DAY 1

1. Flesh
2. Believed
3. Faith
4. Curse
5. Faith
6. Spirit

FROM DAY 2

1. Seed
2. Christ
3. 430
4. True
5. Promise
6. Transgression

APPLICATION HELP

Many Christians today are being led astray by the take on the “grace” doctrine so nicely promoted by some modern evangelists. Many have lost sight of the value of works, thinking that if we don’t have to do anything, then why should we?” The reason is that God has established His plan of salvation to include us and our witness of Him. If we don’t do good works, nonbelievers will have little or no way of seeing the Love of God.

A good example: Have you ever prayed for someone in the hospital and felt the voice of the Lord telling you, “Go see them! Send flowers or make food!”? This would show God’s love, whereas “I’ll pray for you” can sometimes sound a bit esoteric to a nonbeliever who is suffering.

FROM DAY 3

1. Adoption
2. Abba
3. Heirs
4. Angel
5. Eyes
6. Christ

FROM DAY 4

1. Flesh
2. Promise
3. Covenants
4. Mount Sinai
5. Above
6. Free



GALATIANS

Galatians 5



WEEK 4

Galatians 5:1-12: Freedom in Christ

READ GALATIANS 5:1-12

"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery." Galatians 5:1

TEXT QUESTIONS

- 01 In verse 2, Paul tells the Galatians that if they let themselves be _____, Christ will be of no benefit to them at all.
- 02 True/False: Anyone who tries to be right with God by circumcision, or anything else besides Christ, is obligated to keep the whole law. (v. 3)
- 03 According to verse 4, those who are trying to be justified by the law have fallen from _____.
- 04 According to verse 5, we, through the Spirit, eagerly wait for a righteousness that comes through _____.
- 05 In Christ, the only thing that matters is faith expressing itself through _____. (v. 6)
- 06 True/False: God will never persuade you to try to be justified by the Law. (v. 8)

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- 01** Paul is still laboring over the issue of legalism in this chapter. While we are free in Christ, we don't need to ignore sins as if they don't matter. How do we distinguish between avoiding sin and becoming more legalistic? How do we do the first without getting trapped in the second?

- 02** Paul states in verse 7 that the Galatians were running a good race before they were thrown off by the Judaizers. What steps can we take to make sure that we keep running well? How can we remain alert so our faith isn't hindered by others?

Further reading on God Finishing a Good Work in You: Philippians 1:6, Romans 5:3-5



Galatians 5:13-26: The Fruit of the Spirit

READ GALATIANS 5:13-26

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness..."
Galatians 5:22

TEXT QUESTIONS

- 01 We were called to be free, but we should use our freedom to serve one another in _____ not to serve the flesh. (v. 13)
- 02 According to verse 14, the entire Law is _____ when we love our neighbors as ourselves.
- 03 "Walk in the _____ and you will not gratify the desires of the _____." (v. 16)
- 04 According to verse 18, we are not under the Law if we are being led by the _____.
- 05 Those who live in the flesh will not be able to do what? _____ (v. 21)
- 06 Let us not become conceited or vainglorious, provoking and _____ each other. (v. 26)

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- 01** Some Christians have noticed that the Bible has harsher things to say about sexual sins than other flesh sins such as smoking or gluttony. Consider who is harmed most by the sins of others. Why might sexual sins are considered more serious?

- 02** This chapter contains one of the most popular passages in the Bible, known as the Fruit of the Spirit. The Fruit of the Flesh are listed immediately before the Fruits of the Spirit so that the whole passage runs from 5:19-26. What fruit would you like God to help you develop? What flesh behavior would you like Him to help you give up?

Further reading on Deeds of the Flesh and Spirit: Romans 8:5-7, Ephesians 6:12



Galatians 6: Don't Grow Weary of Doing Good

READ GALATIANS 5:13-26

"Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. People reap what they sow."
Galatians 6:7

TEXT QUESTIONS

- 01 According to verse 1, if we see another brother or sister caught in a sin, we should gently restore them, but we should be careful or we also may be _____.
- 02 When we bear each other's burdens, we are fulfilling the Law of _____.
(v. 2)
- 03 According to verse 9, we should not grow _____ in doing good, and we should never give up.
- 04 In verse 14, Paul says that he will never boast except in what?
_____.
- 05 True/False: Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision matters in Christ. (v. 15)
- 06 In verse 17, Paul says that no one should doubt him because he bears on his body the _____ of Christ.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- 01** Verse 2 says, “Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.” Consider how burdens are lightened when others share them. How can we better notice the burdens of those around us and carry them with them? In what ways can we share the burdens we carry?

- 02** Look at verse 9. Have you ever grown or discouraged? How does this verse encourage you? And how can this passage help you encourage others?

Further reading on the Law and the Prophets: Matthew 7:12, 22:40



Galatians: Most Popular Verses Combined!

Read through the verses below from Galatians which are considered most searched-for or most popular in today's culture. The Bible Rank is the verse's popularity among all the 31,000+ verses in our Bible. Therefore, even those with ranks in the 1,000's are considered very popular, and this book contains several that are under 200! Be thinking of which of the Top Ten verses from Galatians most apply to your personal life and in what ways. Write a short reflection on each that clarifies it in your thoughts and your life.

#1 Galatians 5:22-23

Bible Rank: 27

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law."

Reflection: _____

#2 Galatians 2:20

Bible Rank: 71

"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."

Reflection: _____

#3 Galatians 3:28

Bible Rank: 152

"There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, neither male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

Reflection: _____

#4 Galatians 5:16

Bible Rank: 201

"So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature."

Reflection: _____

#5 Galatians 3:26-27

Bible Rank: 254

"So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith or all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ."

Reflection: _____

#6 Galatians 5:1

Bible Rank: 254

"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery."

Reflection: _____

#7 Galatians 3:4-5

Bible Rank: 260

"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery."

Reflection: _____

#8 Galatians 6:7

Bible Rank: 287

"Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. People reap what they sow."

Reflection: _____

#9 Galatians 5:19-21

Bible Rank: 290

"The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery, idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God."

Reflection: _____

#10 Galatians 4:4

Bible Rank: 310

"But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law."

Reflection: _____



Week 4 in Reveiw

Use these Week-In-Review questions for personal growth, group discussion, or both. There are no right or wrong answers; just opportunities to further flesh out the passages of this week and share those insights if possible.

FROM DAY 1

Today's further reading includes Romans 5:3-5 on Christ's work in us. What does this verse tell us about why God doesn't answer all prayers for removal of sins immediately upon our asking? What is He more interested in at times, other than your immediate behavior?

FROM DAY 2

We often think of deeds of the flesh as ones that will make us fat or unhealthy. Why would sins like envy, idolatry and witchcraft be considered deeds of the flesh? How do they inspire us to commit "fleshy" sins?

FROM DAY 3

Look at the warning in verse 6:1. Some people are terribly afraid of backsliding, such that they avoid most art, music, film and literature for fear of "contamination." Oftentimes these Christians have been through a trauma, and their avoidance behavior brings them soothing and peace. What other insights do you have that will make you be less annoyed or personally threatened by these types of fears?

FROM DAY 4

After reading through the most popular verses of this very popular book, what do you see that they all have in common? What are they trying to move us toward?



GALATIANS

Galatians 5

Fill-in-the-Blank Answers

FROM DAY 1

1. Circumcised
2. True
3. Grace
4. Faith
5. Love
6. True

APPLICATION HELP

The text states that when we rely on our actions to bring us salvation, we are putting a yoke around our necks that will become burdensome, distracting, and even defeating after a time. In relying on our actions, we are also saying that Christ's death on the cross was unnecessary.

Conversely, we should not allow sin to reign in our lives. Sometimes giving up a sin is more than a prayer or two. It is a journey. We should cut ourselves slack for things we can't master right away while never giving up the hope and promise, nor opportunities to practice doing better.

FROM DAY 2

1. Love
2. Fulfilled
3. Spirit, Flesh
4. Spirit
5. Inherit the Kingdom of God
6. Envy

APPLICATION HELP

Per sexual promiscuity, one Christian leader noted: "The heart is like the human leg bone. It's not meant to be broken over and over." With our culture so taken in by free love, we often don't recognize the hurt that comes with multiple wrong relationships. And sometimes that hurt doesn't show up for years! But as believers in our Bible and the God of Israel, we can thank Him for institutions like marriage, designed to help protect us.

FROM DAY 3

1. Tempted
2. Christ
3. Weary
4. The cross of Christ
5. True
6. Marks

APPLICATION HELP

It is important to find balance in our giving and in our rejuvenating to avoid exhaustion. Note that people in the pastorate experience burnout at the similar levels to social workers. Even Jesus got away from everyone at regular intervals to rejuvenate. It is good to look for ways to rejuvenate in order to keep your tank full enough to show God's love regularly.



EXTRA CREDIT: Personalizing Galatians for Your Life

Congratulations! You should now have a much better understanding of the Galatians, their servant Apostle Paul, and his words of encouragement to them. Below you can journal about this very popular Bible book to see how it can help on your journey for discipleship. Fill in any questions that strike you as applicable to your life as well as studying any goals, dreams, impressions, or messages to share with others.

01 What passage in Galatians seems most memorable and relatable to your present life?

02 Pick four verses that you would like to memorize, believing the messages will give you daily strength. Write each of them out on a sticky note or scrap of paper and post them where you'll be sure to see them every day (the bathroom mirror and the refrigerator are great choices!).

03 Which verse or verses gave you the most reflection about your past? How has God changed you?

04 Which verse or verses gave you the most reflection on your future? What things would you like God to change before you pass away?

05 What did you learn about God or Jesus that you didn't know or didn't know well before?

06 Change is challenging and can be stressful. Spiritual change can involve a habit or lust, a self-centeredness, or anything you feel has held you back from believing you're achieving God's best. What can you do to help you handle the challenges of change?
