

Galatians 1:1-10 Study Guide

Small Group Questions

1. Paul greets the Galatians with "grace" and "peace" in verse 3. Knowing that God's peace is always tied to experiencing His grace first, share a specific experience or time in your life when the grace of God brought peace/freedom to your life.

2. In Verse 6, Paul describes his disbelief that the Galatians have turned to another gospel. What have they turned to? Why do you think they would do that, after He had been so clear with them?

3. Mike mentioned a Gospel summary by Greg Gilbert (God, Man, Christ, Response). In the "Response" section, Gilbert says "If we understand repentance rightly, we'll see that the idea that you can accept Jesus as Savior but not Lord is nonsense." What does it mean to accept Jesus as Savior, but Lord? Do you see this elsewhere in the Bible and in the world around you? How so?

4. The main issue is that the true Gospel message has been distorted (tampered with) by the Judaizers. Typically, we tend to distort the Gospel by over-emphasizing works (the Law) or focusing only God's love, while neglecting His holiness. Why are both distortions dangerous? What will they produce?

5. Paul takes a bold stance and makes it clear that He is not trying to please men. Yet, when he does so throughout his NT writings, he is passionate, persuasive, and full of the Holy Spirit. Share a positive example of someone who shares Christ in that way and why it is so impactful. What specific fruit of the Spirit do they exemplify?

6. Close by praying that the Gospel would infiltrate every area of your life and that Jesus would be Lord over it all.

Galatians 1:1-10 Message Slides

I. Verses 1-5

A. "Paul, an apostle-not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead- and all the brothers who are with me. To the churches in Galatia: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen."

B. "This is the proper order of the two words, for you can't have the peace of God until you've first experienced His grace." – Pastor Chuck Smith

II. Verses 6-7

A. "I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel-not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ."

B. "What Is The Gospel? By Greg Gilbert

1. God
2. Man
3. Christ
4. Response

C. Romans 1:21: "For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened."

1. God: "Most people have no problem at all thinking of God as loving and compassionate. We Christians have done a bang-up job convincing the world that God loves them. But if we're going to understand just how glorious and life-giving the gospel of Jesus Christ is, we have to understand that this loving and compassionate God is also holy and righteous, and that he is determined never to overlook, ignore, or tolerate sin."

D. Romans 3:9: "We have already charged that all, both Jews and Greeks, are under sin."

2. Man: "And his sobering conclusion is that when we stand before God the Judge, every mouth will be silenced. No one will mount a defense. Not one excuse will be offered."

E. Romans 3:24: "...justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus."

1. Christ: "The Bible is the story of God's counteroffensive against sin. It is the grand narrative of how God made it right, how he is making it right, and how he will one day make it right finally and forever."

F. Romans 4:5: "To the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness."

1. Response

a. Self-sufficiency and unrepentance.

b. Faith and repentance.

c. "If we understand repentance rightly, we'll see that the idea that you can accept Jesus as Savior but not Lord is nonsense."

III. Verses 8-9

A. "But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed."

IV. Verse 10

A. "For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ."

V. Big Idea: There's no other way.