



SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Week of September 12 & 13, 2020

Please use these questions to stay connected as a church to meditate on the same sermon preached from God's Word this week. May this be a fruitful time for the building up of our church and for the spread of the gospel.

Sermon Text

Galatians 2:6-10

If you were not able to listen to this week's sermon, then please refer to this link to listen prior to answering these questions, <http://hawaiichurch.org/sermononline>

Summary

In today's passage the Apostle Paul continues his defense of the Gospel by 1) making a bold clarification that truth and saving power are in the Gospel and not in the men who proclaim it; 2) declaring a full partnership of interdependence between himself and Peter, James and John that is based on doctrinal purity; and 3) holding to an eager concern for the poor, thereby sharing in Christ's compassion for the needy.

Discussion Questions

1. The Apostle Paul did not show partiality or undue deference to the "super Apostles" in Jerusalem (Peter, James, and John). For Paul, the power of the Gospel was in the message itself, and not in the men who proclaimed it. How about you? Do you overvalue human prestige or power? If so, why? What can influential people do for us that the Gospel cannot? Do you believe in the sufficiency of the Gospel? How does the Gospel free us from trying to live up to the standards of other people?
2. It was only after Peter, James, and John recognized that the true Gospel had been entrusted to Paul, and perceived the grace that was given to

him, that they extended to Paul, the “right hand of fellowship”. In other words, the Apostles used doctrinal discernment to validate Paul and his gospel message. How about you? Do you value doctrinal discernment? In other words, are you willing to make a stand for Biblical truth when you hear someone twisting the Scriptures?

3. Although Paul did not desire or seek to be considered part of the influential group of “super Apostles”, he did recognize his need for fellow believers. Paul knew there was no such thing as “ronin” Christians (Loner Christians). How about you? Do you pursue Christian interdependence, Christian community? If so, how? If not, why not?
4. The Apostles affirmed Paul’s ministry to the Gentiles but asked him to do one thing - remember the poor. This was something Paul was eager to do. How about you? Do you remember the poor? If so, how are you currently doing this? Or, is this something of which you need to repent, and begin doing today? How will you do this?