

FREE

A Study on the Book of Galatians



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ABOUT THIS STUDY

Freedom isn't found in the pursuit of many choices.

Freedom isn't found in self-directed living.

Self-sovereignty is simply life bound by sin.

Christ has set us free to live fully submitted lives to Him.

The more we cling to the good news of who Jesus is and what He has done, and the more we align our lives with how He calls us to live, the more we will enjoy the depths of true freedom, joy, and life.

Cling to the gospel *alone*: don't add anything to it.

Love and trust our Savior *alone*: don't live for anyone else. This is freedom. This is life.

Jesus has piled grace and forgiveness on us, made us righteous and pure, heirs, sons and daughters for eternity. This is the grace that compels us by love and

trust to live in full submission to Him, because of all He has done for us!

We are free to be his slaves, and there is great joy in living fully submitted lives that show off the great glory of our Savior.

Follow the below schedule to study the passages on your own, and discuss what God is showing you together with your group. More Bible study resources can be found at thewellsilverspring.org/resources.

PERSONAL DAILY STUDY

Following the below process, prayerfully read the scheduled passage of scripture. Spend the entire week on the given section, slowly reading and rereading it in order to deeply, and accurately, interact with God. Also consider the below supplemental questions per each given week. You can also check out our other simple guides online for additional Bible study resources at thewellsilverspring.org/resources.

What Does It Say?

First, we ask: *“What does this say?”*

Read the passage a few times and carefully observe the words; give full attention to what it says. The purpose is to saturate in the content of the passage.

Look for things such as: important words (what’s being talked about), conjunctions (how is one idea connected to another), admonitions (something being commanded), contrasts, comparisons, illustrations, repeated phrases/ words, mood, and grammatical construction (verb tenses, prepositional phrases, etc.).

Linger here, listening to what God is saying in the detail of His words. Write down questions that the passage raises for you, things you don’t understand, ideas you’d like to pursue further.

What Does It Mean?

We now ask ourselves: *“What does it mean?”*

Use the observations you just gathered, the context of the section, and other passages of scripture to get at the meaning of what you have read.

Consider using [a commentary](#), the [GROW](#) or [SOAP](#) Bible study tools, the [ESV Study Bible](#) notes, or other resources to help.

Next, summarize the main truth you heard from God in His word.

Consider writing out the synthesized truth in your own words. Outline, diagram, draw, or flowchart the line of thought or main idea of the passage. What jumped out

So What?

Now we must ask: *“So what?”*

After meeting God in His word, we cannot ignore, or walk away unchanged. Why does the truth you heard matter to you today?

Is there something new to believe, cling to, or a sin to confess?

Is there something for you to do (or not do) in response to what you have read?

Is there someone with whom to share this truth (believer or nonbeliever)?

Do not forget to apply the gospel for your forgiveness, and as the reason compelling your obedience:

Christ is enough!

He has forgiven you for _____
and He is the reason why we _____.

RESOURCES

Here are some good resources to consider when getting to know God and growing to live for Christ in the book of Colossians.

Bibles & Commentaries

English Standard Version (ESV) Study Bible

[Amazon](#) | [Christianbook.com](#)

The ESV Study Bible is a great resource - everyone should own one. Short commentary on each book of the Bible. You'll love this Bible for Galatians and any book you dig a little more into.

Galatians For You

[Amazon](#) | [Christianbook.com](#)

Great, inexpensive, accessible commentary.

New International Version (NIV) Application Commentary

[Amazon](#) | [Christianbook.com](#)

Also wonderful, similar in great scholarship, accessible.

The Message of Galatians (The Bible Speaks Today)

[Amazon](#)

Bit deeper, little more expensive, and wonderful.

Matthew Henry's Concise Commentary on the Whole Bible

[Amazon](#) | [Christianbook.com](#) | [PDF](#)

Solid resource, also available as a free pdf online.

Online Media

The Bible Project

[bibleproject.com](#)

Great resources for every book of the Bible, themes that flow through the scriptures, and theology in general.

Christian Classics Ethereal Library

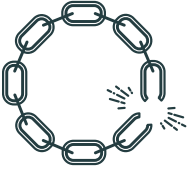
[ccel.org](#)

Online resource pool with tons of resources, a little much to sort through, but many are helpful.

Precept Austin

[preceptaustin.org](#)

Online resource pool with tons of resources, a little much to sort through, but many are helpful.



Week 1

READ

The Book of Galatians; *twice*

QUESTIONS

Read through Galatians two times. Any themes, events, phrases, etc. that jump out to you? Anything you don't understand, questions you have?

Focus in on Paul's explanation of his life coming to Christ, and ministry in verses 11-24. How does God take center stage in Paul's life? How would you describe his life before and after his conversion?

Consider reading the ESV Study Bible introduction/background or referencing one of the commentaries mentioned in the resources section.

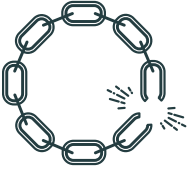
Watch the Bible Project video for a helpful overview of Galatians as a whole.

SO WHAT?

How has God shown His grace in your life?

How did God save you, revealing to you the good news of Jesus?

In what ways does your life glorify God, or not?



Week 2

READ

Galatians 2 (focus: v. 11-14)

QUESTIONS

Go through the personal study process from page 3 for this week's passage:

What does it say?

What does it mean?

So what?

What events occur in verses 1-10? Summarize them. You may want to confer with the ESV Study Bible notes for historic context.

Why is Paul so angry?

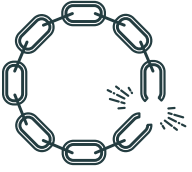
How would you describe a life of congruence with the gospel, informed by verses 11-14?

SO WHAT?

Where is your life in or out of step with the gospel?

Is there anyone or anything you need to face (disagree with) "courageously" because of the sake of the good news of Jesus?

Is there any hypocrisy in your life to confess?



Week 3

READ

Galatians 2 (focus: v. 15-21)

QUESTIONS

Review and reread the situation from verses 1-10.

What does it mean to be justified? How is a person justified?

How is life lived once a person is justified?

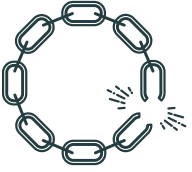
How can the law be misused? How does the law lead a person to Christ, and grace?

SO WHAT?

Where are you trying to be good enough to be pleasing to people and pleasing to God?

How might your inability to do so be the grace that leads you more to trust in Christ in this area?

How might Christ's forgiveness and sufficiency compel even a greater obedience and joy in your life?



Week 4

READ

Galatians 3 (focus: v. 10-15, 23-29)

QUESTIONS

Go through the personal study process from page 3 for this week's passage:

What does it say?

What does it mean?

So what?

Start with the end. What is Paul's conclusion to his longish argument in verses 23-29?

Go back through the logical progression that leads to this conclusion. Outline, timeline, or flow chart each paragraph's main idea.

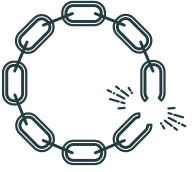
Focus in on verses 10-15. What is true of the law? What is true of faith? How are they alike and/or different?

SO WHAT?

As an heir of Christ, what are some the things that you have, or are true of you?

Are these things on your mind/heart throughout the week?

Dwell on the love of Christ in verse 13. Pray, talk, listen, sit with Him and talk to Him about who you think you are, and who you really are, and why you are His son/daughter, and what that means to you. Worship Him.



Week 5

READ

Galatians 4 (focus: v. 1-11)

QUESTIONS

Go through the personal study process from page 3 for this week's passage:

What does it say?

What does it mean?

So what?

What is the differences between who you were and who you are now in Christ?

How did these changes occur?

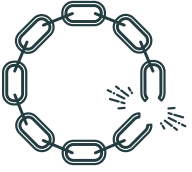
Summarize Paul's illustration from verses 21-31. It functions similar to one of Jesus's parables; what is the main point?

SO WHAT?

Are you enjoying God's love for you, or working for God's love for you? Do you feel more like an employee, or a son/daughter?

Where do you need to cry out to your Father, Abba, right now, taking to Him about the things you don't share with other people?

Because we are family, with whom can you share these things?



Week 6

READ

Galatians 5:1-15

QUESTIONS

Go through the personal study process from page 3 for this week's passage:

What does it say?

What does it mean?

So what?

Compare and contrast slavery and freedom from this passage.

What does Paul say leads a person back into slavery?

How is this a dangerous and easy thing to slide into?

What does true freedom create a person's life/ethic?

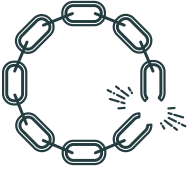
SO WHAT?

Where is your life more defined by slavery?

Where are you enjoying the freedom you have in Christ?

Are you a loving person?

Where do you see your actions "biting," or judgmental, legalistic, rather than loving? How can you show love to this person this week?



Week 7

READ

Galatians 5:16-26

QUESTIONS

Go through the personal study process from page 3 for this week's passage:

What does it say?

What does it mean?

So what?

Compare and contrast walking according to the Spirit and walking according to the flesh.

How does identity impact ethic? How are they connected?

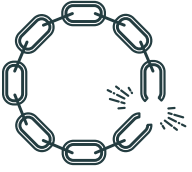
SO WHAT?

Where in your life are you living by the flesh?

Where/how are you living by the Spirit?

What does your identity have to do with changing your actions in this area or in these things?

Pray and talk with God about these things, and share them with a fellow brother or sister in Christ.



Week 8

READ

Galatians 6 (focus: v. 1-10)

QUESTIONS

Go through the personal study process from page 3 for this week's passage:

What does it say?

What does it mean?

So what?

List every command that is given. Try to clump and categorize them.

Why are these commands challenging?

How does identity impact your ability to follow them?

Explain or draw each illustration (bearing a burden and reaping/sowing).

SO WHAT?

Whose burden might you take on a little more this week? What keeps you from doing so?

Where are you sowing something in your life that is reaping an undesired fruit?

Talk with God about one of those two areas. Confess to him what is true in this, cling to His grace, take a tangible step of obedience right now.

TOGETHER WITH YOUR 3D GROUP

Use the following format to discuss the passage together in your 3D group. You'll find the specific supplementary questions for the scripture passages

in the above schedule. You can also find the full details for 3D discussion in our [3D Meeting Guide](#). Here is a summary:

Bible

First, discuss the Bible passage from the week:

1

What does the passage say? What jumps out to you? What key ideas, commands, promises, words, ideas, etc, struck you this week?

2

How would you summarize the main truth from the section? How might this inform your thinking and shape the way we are to live?

3

Where is the gospel connected to this truth? What does this highlight about who we are, or about who God is?

Life

Share about how this truth impacts your life today:

For you today, why does this specifically matter?

Is there something God calling you to obey in response to His word?

Is there something you need to do or not do? Something to believe, promise to cling to, or a sin to confess?

Is there someone to share this truth with?

Prayer

Pray throughout your time together.

Offer praises to God when something encouraging is shared; ask for help from God as challenges are shared.

Close in prayer.

Spend time to respond to God's truth in the scriptures and from your conversation.

Praise Him.

Confess sin to Him.

Thank Him.

Ask Him for His power and provision.