

GALATIANS

FREEDOM IN CHRIST

WEEK OF 05/19/26

THE CURSE OF TRYING HARDER

GALATIANS 3:1-14

Silence (1-2 minutes)

Sit silently for a minute as a way to center your heart and invite the Holy Spirit to help you listen to and receive God's Word.

Opening Prayer (2-3 minutes)

Read: Galatians 3:1–14

Devotional (30-45 minutes)

In Christianity, we wear a robe of righteousness. The garment is made of the threads of the Spirit, the Word, and the Cross, and each thread provides evidence of grace sustained by faith. In this week's study of Galatians 3:1–14, Paul rebukes the Galatians for not living by faith alone and explains the three threads of evidence.

1. What's your favorite piece of clothing and why?
2. Before buying a piece of clothing, what do you consider about the article of clothing?

Galatians 3:1–5 | The first evidence Paul points to is God's provision of the Holy Spirit. He wants the Galatians to remember that the Holy Spirit helped them during their suffering and that God performed miracles among them.

3. Which of the questions in verses 2 to 6 affects you the most? Why?
4. Describe a time when God performed a miracle or when the Holy Spirit helped you.

Galatians 3:6–9 | In these verses, Paul brings the Galatians evidence about the original plan of grace. He says the Word verifies the plan of grace for the righteous—that everyone comes to God only by hearing with faith.

5. Read Genesis 15:1–6. Abraham had no children, yet God promised Him a son as heir and offspring in the number of the stars. What does this story tell us about the plan of grace?

Galatians 3:10–14 | The final evidence Paul offers of “saved by grace, sustained by grace” is the cross. Those who rely on the world’s laws are cursed—apart from Christ and without hope. But those who live by faith are freed from their sins because Jesus took those sins upon Himself. He bore the sin, so we don’t have to.

6. What “works of the law” have a hold on your life?

7. What sins have you broken free of, by relying on the cross?

The evidence is clear: **Christianity is not saved by grace, kept by sweat—it is grace through faith from first to last.** Jesus Christ, in dying on the cross, took off His robe of righteousness and put it around our shoulders. To wear the robe is to live by faith and believe God as Abraham did (Genesis 15:6).

Closing Prayer

Dear God, thank you for the robe of righteousness, which assures me I am blessed. Through your Spirit I am reminded of how grace sustains me. Through your Word I find the stories of the righteous who lived by faith. On the cross I see your Son and know I am no longer cursed. May I remember this blessing of being your child now and for always. In your name I pray. Amen.

Prayer Requests (10-15 minutes)