

ASTONISHED THAT YOU ARE SO QUICKLY DESERTING HIM WHO CALLED YOU IN THE GRACE OF CHRIST AND TURNING TO A DIFFERENT GOSPEL—
NOT THAT THERE IS ANOTHER GOSPEL, BUT THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO WOULD LIKE TO PERVERT THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST. 8 BUT EVEN IF
WE, OR AN ANGEL FROM HEAVEN, SHOULD PREACH A GOSPEL CONTRARY TO THAT WHICH YOU RECEIVED, LET HIM BE ACCURSED.
9 AS WE HAVE SAID BEFORE, SO NOW I SAY AGAIN, IF ANY ONE IS PREACHING TO YOU A GOSPEL CONTRARY TO THAT WHICH YOU RECEIVED, LET
HIM BE ACCURSED. 10 AM I NOW SEEKING THE FAVOR OF MEN, OR OF GOD? OR AM I TRYING TO PLEASE MEN? IF I WERE STILL PLEASING MEN, I
SHOULD NOT BE A SERVANT OF CHRIST. 11 FOR I WOULD HAVE BEEN FREE FROM ALL MEN IF I HAD KNOWN THE GOSPEL WHICH WAS PREACHED BY ME IS NOT
MAN'S GOSPEL— FOR I DID NOT RECEIVE IT FROM MAN, NOR WAS I TAUGHT IT, BUT IT CAME THROUGH A REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST— FOR YOU

GALATIANS

FREEDOM IN CHRIST

WEEK OF 04/19/2026

GO WITH GRACE!

GALATIANS 1:11-24

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 1:11-24

Devotional (30- 45 minutes)

Galatians is written to several churches in Galatia and Paul wrote this to reset their view of the Gospel to turn them away from a "Jesus **and**" to just "**Jesus**". Paul is correcting the church that had fallen under a group of probably Jewish teachers who said that in order to be a Christian, you need to believe that Jesus is the Messiah **AND** also need to be following the rules of Torah. In frustration (Gal 1:6) Paul tries to set them back on track to what he taught them when he originally established the churches. **The Big Idea of this study is: Go with Grace!**

Galatians 1:11-14: Paul's Resume | It seems that some people were denigrating Paul's views because he wasn't a true apostle, one of the 12 that were with Jesus. Paul starts this section as a resume to remind them who he was and the past he came from.

1. If you were writing Paul's resume, what would be the "resume summary statement" that you would write at the top of the resume?
2. Why does Paul start with his time as a Pharisee?

Galatians 1:15-20: Paul's Past | Paul reminds them of his story which you can read about in Acts 9 and how he met Jesus. Paul's identity was based on being a Pharisee and the passion to pursue anything that went against the Torah. He just basically had the rug pulled out from under everything he worked for in his life and his mission to stamp out heresy against the Torah. But he discovered that he was totally wrong his whole life. Paul essentially was trying to fight the "**Jesus and ...**" movement and focus on the Good News that Jesus's teaching brought.

3. How would you react if you were Paul the day after he was blinded in Acts 9?
4. What kinds of things do you suppose that Paul thought about for 3 years (1:17 – 1:18)?
5. What would Paul seek from Cephas (Peter) and why was this important to the people he was working against in Galatians?

Galatians 1:21-24: Paul's Conversion Impact | Arthur Brooks from the Harvard Business Review talks about Identity Crisis where people define who they are solely by their job, "I'm a successful, focus on "successful", businessperson. But, he says, "that's an identity based on fear. Because the minute you aren't successful, then you ask yourself, well, who am I then?"

The gospel comes to tell us that we don't need to "do" to be loved by God or to be accepted as one of God's people. This totally depends on God's mercy and doesn't have a link to who I was/am. That's gone. Now I'm in Christ. I can "Go in Grace!" because of what God has done in me, and how God has changed me. Others can glorify God because of His work in and through our lives.

6. After three years, what are the rumors running around about Paul and what two points does Paul make? (verse 22 and 24) Why is this important?
7. What kind of identities do you find yourself putting on to call yourself a good Christian?
8. What kinds of ways could you protect yourself from becoming focused on following the law rather than depending solely on God's grace?

Closing Prayer

Our Father God, help us to keep the Good News of Jesus at the center of all we are and all we do. Give us the courage and wisdom to share it, so that Your love and true peace may be known throughout the world. Give us an identity rooted in You.

Share Prayer Requests (10-15 minutes)