



WEEK OF 05/24/26 WHEN THE PROMISE CAME TRUE GALATIANS 3:15-29

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 3:15-29

Devotional (30-45 minutes)

This past Sunday, May 24, was Pentecost. Pentecost (meaning fiftieth) is an agricultural feast observed 50 days after Passover; it is harvest time in Israel. Pentecost offered gratitude to God for the harvest and a celebration of the “first fruits”. Acts 2: 1-12 describes the day of Pentecost after Jesus had died and was resurrected. During this Pentecost, God gave the first fruits of the Holy Spirit with more to come. People from different nations, cultural backgrounds, and languages heard and understood the gospel message in their own language- linguistic equity. Pentecost is where the Big Idea comes into view- **From promise to law to Christ to the Spirit- God made us heirs in Christ; a united family through faith.** God is moving His promise forward - a global family in Christ. Unity was the biggest miracle of Pentecost.

1. In early childhood, we were all taught about colors. Can you name the primary and secondary colors?
2. How are secondary colors produced?

Galatians 3:15-18 | In Genesis 15, God made a promise to Abraham: you will be a father of many nations. Embedded in that promise was a singular, specific offspring. Also, when it was time for Abraham to walk through the carcasses, something remarkable occurred: only God walked through. Interestingly, Old Testament contractual agreements or covenants were sealed by a “cutting of the covenant”—the halving of a sacrificial animal laid opposite one another, and the two parties of the covenant would walk together through the carcasses.

3. What is the significance of only God walking through the sacrifice? (Genesis 15 can be read for reference)
4. How do Philippians 1:6 and 1 Corinthians 1:8 relate to God's promise to us as believers? Is our faith based on works and our righteousness, or God's?

Galatians 3:19–24 | The law given to Moses, but why? The law was our temporary guardian until Christ came. It identified sin, clarified sin, restrained sin's worst expressions, and offered protection. The Law can define the boundary, but it cannot change the heart.

5. Why isn't following the law enough to change the human heart?
6. What do you think is the point of the law if it can't save someone or change them from the inside out?

Galatians 3:25–29 | What the Law could not do, God stepped in when the fullness of time came. Jesus entered under the Law's authority—the very authority that held us—yet he kept it sinlessly. Without exception, He lived the life that we could not live. And then He bore the Law's full curse. He died the death we should have died. Redemption was accomplished by Christ, and family was formed by the Spirit. There is neither Jew nor Greek. Neither slave nor free. Neither male nor female. Paul is not erasing these distinctions—he is dethroning them. Your background still matters; it just no longer defines your belonging. Your ethnicity is not erased; it is decentered. Christ becomes our primary identity.

7. If we are heirs in Christ's Kingdom, a Kingdom that can never perish, spoil or fade, why do we still define ourselves by lesser identities?
8. Are we living as though the promise has actually been kept? If not, why not?

Closing Prayer

Dear God, thank you for Pentecost. Thank you for the gift of the Holy Spirit. Thank you for removing the guardianship of the Law and replacing it with grace through faith by the saving blood of Jesus. Thank you that my salvation is not based on my human efforts, but entirely on you, God. Help me to live as though the promise has been kept. Help me to see and love other people who are different than me as you love them. In Jesus name, amen.

Share Prayer Requests (10-15 minutes)