

Sermon Discussion Guide

June 21, 2026 - Pastor Scott

Pity the Fool (Galatians 3:1-14)

Summary: In this sermon, we examined the foolishness of turning away from the true gospel. The Galatian churches were acting foolishly by trying to continue the Christian life by the flesh after beginning by the Spirit. Paul exposes this spiritual foolishness through three arguments: the reception of the Spirit, the faith of Abraham, and the curse of the law. The call for us is to abandon the exhausting path of self-reliance and choose to live by faith in daily dependence on Christ, empowered by the Spirit.

Discussion Starter

- Was there anything in this week's sermon that was particularly convicting or particularly encouraging to you? Why?
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Reflection Questions

- **Rethinking "Foolishness":** The sermon notes show that biblical foolishness isn't about a lack of intelligence; it's a spiritual resistance to God. Looking at the four marks mentioned (*resisting instruction, disregarding consequences, repeating mistakes, rejecting God*), which one do you find yourself most easily sliding into when you are stressed or distant from God?
 - **The "DIY" Spiritual Project:** The Galatians started their journey by faith but shifted into relying on their own effort (the flesh). In what area of your life right now (e.g., your family, career, a struggle with a specific habit) are you acting like a "DIY Christian"—trying to fix or control things entirely on your own strength?
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Application Questions

- Think about the area of life you identified as a "DIY project" in the reflection phase. What is one practical step you can take this week to hand that control back to God? (e.g., Setting a daily alarm to pause and say a 30-second prayer of surrender, or opening up to a trusted friend about the pressure you are feeling).
- The sermon mentioned that relying on our own works leaves us exhausted. Look back at your past week—where did you feel the most emotionally or spiritually drained? How can you specifically invite the Holy Spirit into that exact pocket of exhaustion tomorrow?

- If you were to measure the success of your spiritual life this week based on *faith and dependence* rather than *productivity and checkboxes*, how would you evaluate your week? What is one "invisible" act of faith you can prioritize over a highly visible "good work"?
- Pastor Scott mentioned the story of Pharaoh constantly demanding an impossible quota. Identify one unrealistic expectation or "quota" you have placed on yourself (or that you feel others have placed on you) regarding your spiritual performance. How can you practically "resign" from meeting that false quota this week?
- It's easy to accidentally force the people around us (spouses, children, coworkers, fellow church members) into a system of moral scorekeeping based on how we treat them when they fail. How can you extend the grace of Christ's "total redemption" to someone in your life who messes up this week?
- These verses call us to live by faith, "giving all the glory to God." If a major prayer of yours is answered this week, or if you find success in a project, how will you practically ensure you give the credit to God's provision rather than your own wisdom or effort?

Close with prayer

(Guide written by: Jonathan Hernandez)

Tips for Group Leaders

- DO ask open-ended questions. DON'T ask questions where a short "right" answer ends the discussion.
- DO encourage mutual participation by every group member. DON'T feel the need to respond or weigh in after every contribution. Avoid monologuing. As the leader, your goal is to facilitate mutual discussion between all group members (Eph 4:15–16).
- DO ask follow-up questions: "What do you mean by that?" "Tell me more!" "Has anyone else experienced something similar (or different)?"
- DO feel free to pick and choose questions that are a good fit for your group. DON'T feel the need to get through every question, and don't worry if you spend most of your time on a few questions that generate a lot of good discussion.
- DO keep the main thing the main thing. Steer your conversation toward the main theme of the sermon and the biblical text. DON'T get sidetracked on less important matters, theological debates, etc. A rabbit trail might sometimes be worth pursuing—if group members are wrestling deeply with the implications of biblical truth for their lives. Otherwise, steer conversation back to the main topic.
- DO get into the text. It could be helpful to read over the passage together or ask questions directly related to the text. Help group members engage the text for themselves and respond to what they see there.
- DO revisit important moments from the sermon—a memorable story, an impactful quote, a convicting point of application. "Remember when pastor X talked about Y? What impression did that make on you?"
- DO allow space for reflection, silence, and thoughtful answers. DON'T feel that you need to jump in or ask a new question just because the group has been quiet for a few seconds. A good rule of thumb is to wait until the silence gets awkward, then count silently to ten before jumping in.
- DO bring discussions home to practical, concrete everyday life. DON'T let discussion and application stay in the abstract realm. Steer discussion toward *what does responding to this sermon look like for me?* If comments are vague or general, ask "what would that look like, practically?"