Triangle Bible Study Lesson 1: Galatians Overview

Introduction: In the early church, Jews who became followers of Jesus struggled with their dual religious identities. As Jews they felt bound to follow the law of Moses, but as new Christians, they were invited to experience liberty found only in the Gospel. Judaizers were Jewish Christians that insisted Gentile followers of Jesus must also submit to the Jewish laws and traditions. The Book of Galatians was written to refute the legalistic teachings of Judaizers and to call true believers back to Gospel liberation.

Warmup

• What is something new you learned from the Galatians Overview Lecture?

Day 1: Read Galatians 1 [Open NIV] [Open NKJV]

- 1. Who wrote this book (v. 1)? To whom was it written (v. 2)? What was the main problem being addressed in Galatians (vs. 6-7)?
- 2. Make a bullet point summary of what you learn about Paul's calling to the Gospel ministry (vs. 11-23).
- 3. Why is it so important that the Gospel be understood clearly by those receiving it?

Day 2: Read Galatians 2 [Open NIV] [Open NKJV]

4. To what had Paul and Peter been entrusted (vs. 6-8)?

- 5. Why did Paul oppose Peter in vs. 11-14?
- 6. Record the verses in Galatians 2 that refer to faith in Jesus Christ (vs. 15-21). Why is this significant?

Day 3: Read Galatians 3 [Open NIV] [Open NKJV]

- 7. Why did Paul consider the Galatian church members foolish (vs. 1-5)?
- 8. Why was Abraham known as the "man of faith" (vs. 6-14)? How do you know that you have been "credited with righteousness" like Abraham?
- 9. How does one's inheritance from God depend on the promise rather than the law (vs. 15-25?)

Day 4: Read Galatians 4 [Open NIV] [Open NKJV]

- 10. What warning is Paul giving to the Galatian church (vs. 8-20)?
- 11. Make a chart giving distinctions between Sarah and Hagar (vs. 21-31).

 Sarah Hagar

12. What is your "takeaway" from Galatians 4?

Day 5: Read Galatians 5 [Open NIV] [Open NKJV]

- 13. What does v. 6 mean and how might you apply it?
- 14. Write a paragraph (in your own words) describing life in the Spirit (vs. 16-26).

Day 6: Read Galatians 6 [Open NIV] [Open NKJV]

- 15. Verse 1 speaks of someone caught in sin being restored gently by one who is more spiritual. What do you think this means and what warning is given?
- 16. What does the Apostle Paul conclude about circumcision in v. 15? (Use 2 Corinthians 5:17 to help you answer this question.)
- 17. What principle is derived from Paul's conclusion and how could you apply it to your life?