

COMMUNITY GROUPS

living out the gospel with
one another in our homes

Date: 18/01/26

Sermon: Ted Rastatter / For Freedom Christ Set Us Free

Text: Galatians 1:1-4

Questions: Jerry Shiver

This week Pastor Ted started a new series of messages on the Book of Galatians. In today's message Ted provided insight into the first 4 verses of Paul's letter to the Churches of Galatia in Asia Minor (planted during his earlier missionary journeys) and an overview of Paul's intent and motivations for the letter. In Ted's overview he focuses on the problems that Paul was addressing, the whole reason behind these problems, and his solution to these problems. Ted's main application for us from Paul's letter is that everything needed for us to be a part of God's family has already been completed in Christ. There's nothing else that is needed.

Discussion Questions:

1. Read verses 1-2. What issue does Paul attack with his opening sentence? Read Act 22:6:10, and Matthew 28:18-19. Discuss what it means to be an apostle and why it was critical to the content of Paul's letter. Read 2 Cor 5:20 In what ways do we share Paul's apostleship?
2. Read verse 3-4, 6-9. Discuss how these verses are related to the second main issue Paul is addressing. What is the problem (Gal 1:7)? What were the consequences within the churches (Gal 2:12, 4:9)? What application does this have for us today (hospitality vs compromise) (Gal 1:8-9)?
3. Just as Paul had to deal with false teachers, the church today faces the same challenge. Ted warned about minimizing the position of false teachers as they can be very powerful (Gal 2:11-13, 2 Tim 4:3). Discuss how we can identify and deal with a false teacher/false teaching (2 Peter 2:1. Acts 4:12, 2 Tim 3:16).
4. Ted emphasized the context of the false teaching and perspective that the members of the Galatian churches faced (specifically ethnically Jewish and non-Jewish (Greek) converts). Discuss how this complicated these converts' ability to deal with the false teachings. How might this apply to us today? Ted mentioned the Mormon faith, what about converts or believers of other faiths e.g. Jehovah Witness, Muslim, Buddhist, etc.?
Interesting website: <https://denominationdifferences.com/compare/all>
5. Read Gal 2:20, 3:13, 5:1, Jn 3:3, 8:36 and Rom 5:1, 8:1-2. Discuss what it takes to have freedom in Christ? What does/has freedom in Christ meant to you? For personal reflection, Ted asks "What do you need freedom from right now? What's going on deep down in your heart that you need freedom from?"