

## First Things First: Galatians Grace and Revelation

# TALK IT OVER

### Key Scripture

*“Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.” – Mark 16:16 (ESV)*

*“But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven shone around him. And falling to the ground, he heard a voice saying to him, ‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?’ And he said, ‘Who are you, Lord?’ And he said, ‘I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.’ The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. Saul rose from the ground, and although his eyes were opened, he saw nothing. So they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.” – Acts 9:1-9 (ESV)*

*“Now, therefore, why are you putting God to the test by placing a yoke on the neck of the disciples that neither our fathers nor we have been able to bear?” – Acts 15:10 (ESV)*

*“Paul, an apostle—not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead” – Galatians 1:1 (ESV)*

*“I want you to know, brothers, that the gospel that was preached by me is not man’s gospel. For I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ.” – Galatians 1:11-12 (ESV)*

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### Start Talking: Find a conversation starter for your group. (15 Min)

- If you could snap your fingers and make one thing in life easier, what would it be?
- What’s something that you’ve changed your opinion of?

### Head: Start Thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking. (10 Min)

- Read Galatians 1:1 and Galatians 1:11-2:14. From where does Paul’s authority come from? Why does he have to prove his credentials? Based on the passage, does any one of God’s apostles have more authority than the other? Is there a hierarchy?
- Bad theology hurts people. Read Galatians 2:1-5. In what way would the false brothers, known as the Judaizers / circumcision party, “bring us into slavery?” How would their requirement that all new converts to Christianity adhere to the circumcision requirement of the Old Testament ceremonial law undermine the Gospel?

### Heart: Start Sharing. Choose a question to create openness. (10 Min)

- Paul is teaching that he received “revelation” directly from Jesus. Consequently, we believe Paul is inspired to speak and write God’s message to us. Do you believe in the authority of the Holy Scriptures in your life? How do the Scriptures shape your view of the world, and your value system?
- What the consequences if one does not accept the authority of God’s Word in their life?

### Hands: Start Doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week. (10 Min)

- If Scripture is not an authority in your life currently, what can you do to investigate its merits and the consequences of not accepting it?
- Identify an unnecessary barrier between you and an unbeliever you know, or between them and God, and work to remove it.

### Start Praying. Be bold and pray with power. (15 Min)

- For suggestions on structuring prayer time, see the *Group Prayer Ideas* page in this packet.

### Trios: Split into same-gender groups of three. (15 Min)

1. What’s a passage of scripture that has impacted you this week? Read it to the group and explain why.
2. Is there anything God is leading you to repent of?
3. How’s your weekly 3-2-1 challenge going? (*3 Conversations with New People, Learn 2 Names, Make 1 Meaningful Connection*)
4. Who is one non-believer that you need to reach out to this week?
5. What’s something you’d like someone else to check in with you about this week?
6. Pray for one another.