

## First Things First: Galatians Grace Through Faith Alone

# TALK IT OVER

### Key Scripture

*“yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified.” – Galatians 2:16 (ESV)*

*“10 For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, “Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them.” 11 Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for “The righteous shall live by faith.” Galatians 3:10-11 (ESV)*

*“There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.” – Galatians 3:28 (ESV)*

*“4 But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. 6 And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” 7 So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.” – Galatians 4:4-7 (ESV)*

*“21 But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— 22 the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith... 28 For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law... 30 since God is one—who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith.” - Romans 3:21-30 (ESV)*

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

- Were you the kid who earned all the gold stars in the class, or were you annoyed by that kid?
- What is the most extravagant thing you have ever done to win acceptance from someone?

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

- Read Galatians 2:15 – 3:14 (and note the sarcasm in 2:15). What would happen if you lived to try to earn Heaven through obedience to the law? Through Karma?
- Read Galatians 3:15 – 4:7. Paul makes the case that Abraham was considered righteous by faith and not obedience to the law. How might that have been difficult for the Jews to hear?
- Read Romans 3:23. Some theologians maintain that humans are not totally fallen and retain some ability to help themselves earn God’s grace. How well does that idea sync up with the rest of Romans 3?
- Reading Galatians 3:28 in context, Paul is teaching the equal value of all people in Christ. However, he still does teach different roles that each gender plays in the church and marriage.

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

- How were people saved during the Old Testament?
- Think of any unbelievers that you know. If you had to guess, do they believe that Christianity is about obeying the 10 commandments, or God’s free gift of grace in Jesus? Does the public perception of our beliefs match what they actually are? Why do you think that is?

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

- Tomorrow morning, read Romans 4.

### 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.