

Sermon Discussion Guide for Cumberland Fellowship Church
Sermon Series: Breaking Fake – September 4, 2022



*This guide is a supplement to the weekly sermon. We encourage families and groups to use it. When we hear God's Word, we need to do more than listen. The Bible says, "Be doers of the word, not hearers only (James 1:22)." **Step 1: GATHER** with your family or group. **Step 2: REVIEW** and **DISCUSS** the key points and scriptures from the sermon. **Step 3: PRAY** for the prayer requests shared by your family or group.*

DISCUSSION STARTER

Discuss how your group thinks the average non-Christian would describe a "self-righteous" person. Ask, "Is the concept of 'self-righteousness' a Christian idea? Why or why not?"

DIGGING DEEPER 1

Read Galatians 3:11-12. Some false teachers in the churches in Galatia believed that the law could make one right with God. Paul taught otherwise. Ask, "When Paul says in verse 12 that 'the person who does these things [the law] will live by them,' what does he mean? How does the first part of verse 12 help us make sense of the last part?" Discuss the possibility or impossibility of obeying the entire law.

DIGGING DEEPER 2

Read Galatians 3:13. Paul introduces the idea of redemption. Using content from the sermon or a study Bible, discuss the background of the word "redeem." The ransom price paid to redeem an individual or group is a concept found in other places in the New Testament. **Read 1 Peter 1:18; Matthew 20:28; 1 Timothy 2:5-6.** Ask, "How do these verses help us understand the ransom that God paid through Christ?" **Read Philippians 3:20.** Based on this verse, believers are redeemed from our bondage to sin and redeemed for our heavenly home with God. Ask, "Why should we eagerly await a Savior if our citizenship is already in heaven?" Discuss the significance of Christ becoming a curse for us by dying on the cross for our redemption.

DIGGING DEEPER 3

Read Galatians 3:14-16. A covenant is simply an agreement between two people. Although covenants were present when Paul lived, he is pointing to a greater covenant made between God and Abraham many years prior. God promised to bless all the nations through Abraham's seed [offspring]. *See Genesis 3:15 and 22:18 for more context.* **Read Galatians 3:17-19.** The promise made to Abraham was given before the law, so Paul anticipates the question, "Why was the law given at all if it could not make us right with God?" Paul's answer is that the law was given to reveal the lost condition of those who attempted to keep it. Even though the law was given by angels through Moses, it was not able to make people right with God.

DOING THE WORD

Read Galatians 3:20. Moses was the mediator that brought the law from God given to him by the angels. The idea of a mediator is a reminder that sinful humanity needed a true go between that could bridge the gap between God and mankind. **Read 1 Timothy 2:3-6 and Hebrews 9:15.** Pastor said, "Jesus Christ is our mediator who intervened or stepped in between God and all of mankind by his death and resurrection." Jesus came to restore harmony and peace between God and mankind to those who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus. Ask, "Who has God placed in your life that needs peace with God? What will you do this week to show them the love of God and speak of the One who made a way for us to experience a relationship with God?" Challenge your group to pray for insight from God into what He is doing in their lives and those who they know or will meet this week.