

**Sermon Discussion Guide for Cumberland Fellowship Church Sermon Series:
Breaking Fake – September 18, 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

Ask people in your group to imagine that they have a distant relative that has recently passed away and left them a rather large surprise inheritance. Aside from being responsible with their new financial windfall, what would be the first thing they do with their inheritance? Why?

DIGGING DEEPER 1

Read Galatians 4:1-2. Pastor Sam stated that an heir is someone who will take possession of something previously promised. Ask, "How does this play out in what Paul is saying here? What is the possession we have previously been promised?" Say, "The promise made to Abraham is also for us—the promise that being right with God comes through faith. Being right with God also means we are a child of God, and as a child of God we now become an heir with Christ."

DIGGING DEEPER 2

Read Galatians 4:3. Ask, "What are the elementary principles Paul was referring to? Discuss what the elementary principles of our world and our culture are today? Have they changed that much from the time of the Galatians?" Ask, "How may the elementary principles of this world tempt you to fall back into slavery?"

DIGGING DEEPER 3

Read Galatians 4:4-5. Paul is making it clear that Jesus came at just the right time in God's redemptive plan when the world was perfectly prepared for God's work. The time was also right because the 483 years prophesied by Daniel were drawing to a close (Daniel 9:24-26). Jesus came to purchase us out of the slave market, from our bondage to sin and the elements of the world. Ask, "How does this impact the way we wait upon the Lord?"

DIGGING DEEPER 4

Read Romans 8:11-17. Ask your group, "What additional insights into sonship does this passage add to the teaching of Galatians 4?" Say, "The astonishing bottom line of sonship is that God now treats us as though we have done everything that Jesus has done. We can approach God as if we were as faithful, beautiful, and heroic as Jesus himself. We are heirs with Him." Ask your group, "How does that make you feel? How does that impact the way you should live?"

If time permits read the following cross-references: 1 Peter 1:4; Titus 3:7; Galatians 5:1; Romans 6:22 and discuss how these passages help us better understand Paul's message to us in Galatians 4:1-7.

DOING THE WORD

Read Galatians 4:6-7. Consider what "Abba" means and what relationship God has called you into with Him. Take time to thank God for sending Jesus to rescue you from slavery and adopt you as His child. Ask God's help to keep you from the temptation to once again live as a slave, instead of as His child. Thank God for your new identity as His loved child. Finally, Ask God for the help of His Spirit to enable you to truly believe and live as His forever accepted child.