



Key Scripture References

- Galatians 2:1–21
- Acts 15
- Psalm 49:16–17
- Galatians 1 (context)

Sermon Title: No Ordinary Family – Week 3

“Families and Friction”

I. The Family as a Garden (Illustration by Charles Swindoll)

“A family is like a garden...” – cultivating love, unity, and character.

Fifteen Rows of Planting:

- **4 Peas:** Preparedness, Perseverance, Promptness, Politeness
- **3 Squash:** Gossip, Criticism, Indifference
- **5 Lettuce:** Be Faithful, Unselfish, Loyal, Loving, Truthful

- **3 Turnips:** Show up with a Smile, New Idea, Determination

➡ **Takeaway:** Like gardens, families need tending—and so does the family of God.

II. The Empty Aquarium: A Modern Parable

- What should be simple (water, food, filter) becomes complex when something disrupts the system.
 - **Point:** The wrong environment can lead to unexpected conflict and casualties—even in something as basic as community.
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III. Paul's Visit to Jerusalem – Galatians 2:1–10

- Paul, Barnabas, and Titus meet privately with Peter, James, and John (Galatians 2:2).
- Paul seeks confirmation of unity in the gospel, not personal gain.
- He refuses to bend to false teachers—even briefly (v.5).

🟡 **Lesson:** Even with confidence in your calling, seek accountability and unity with other believers.

IV. False Teachers vs. True Gospel

- False teachers seek influence, not truth.
- Example: A TV preacher twisting Psalm 49:16 to justify wealth, without context.

📌 **Principle:** God doesn't give exclusive "truth" to one person. True gospel invites scrutiny and communal affirmation.

V. Agreement and Assignment – Galatians 2:7–10

- Peter = Apostle to Jews
- Paul = Apostle to Gentiles

- Same gospel, different fields.

💬 *“They saw that God had given me the responsibility...” (v.7)*

➡ Unity is not uniformity. God’s assignments differ, but the gospel remains the same.

VI. The Conflict in Antioch – Galatians 2:11–14

- Peter avoids eating with Gentiles when Jewish leaders arrive.
- Paul publicly confronts him: “You’re not living in line with the truth of the gospel.”
- **Modern Analogy:**
 - *“It’s Your Ship”* by Capt. Abrashoff: Breaking down barriers between officers and enlisted men.
 - Real leadership joins people, not divides them.

■ **Key Thought:** Compromise with culture or peer pressure undermines the gospel.

VII. Paul’s Declaration of Gospel Freedom – Galatians 2:15–21

“We are made right with God by faith in Jesus Christ, not by obeying the law...” (v.16)

Illustration: The Sad Baloney Omelet

- Trying to live under law is like cooking without the right tools—disappointing, wasteful, and joyless.
- Grace is like Mom calling and saying, *“Dinner’s ready—just come.”*

📣 **Point:** The gospel is not “bring what you have and I’ll make it work.” It’s “come and receive what I’ve prepared.”

VIII. Conclusion: Crucified with Christ – Galatians 2:19–21

“It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me...”

🌱 Like a garden, growth comes from continual tending—not rule-keeping.

✚ Faith in Christ brings freedom, not frustration.

💬 *“If righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing.”*

Application

- Are you living more like Peter—changing based on who’s watching?
 - Or like Paul—unshaken, even when it means confrontation?
 - Is your gospel more like rules—or more like an invitation?
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