Before we get started.

I could tell last week by the glares on some faces that I was touching some pain points.

I know that all of us have been victimized by someone somewhere along the line, but not all of us have victimized equally.

I want to make a statement.

Never seeking to diminish or make light of your pain, but seeking to diminish and eliminate the potential of it ever happening again.

To make you aware that you are greater than the one who harmed you.

That God's grace is sufficient to erase your pain.

Welcome to the New Part 2

Gal 4:19 (AMPC) My little children, for whom I am **again** suffering birth pangs until Christ is completely and permanently **formed** (molded) within you,

BackStory: The church at Galatia had been birthed by the message of Grace.

Complete trust in and reliance upon Christ for their salvation.

But then some folks got into the church and began to preach an "add to" message.

We have all heard that message, those additional things we have to do to be really saved.

Some of us have heard that "tithing" is the add on.

That if you don't tithe your not really saved, so if you want to be really saved you gotta tithe.

This is why for years I avoided the word tithe, cause it had been so maligned. That it was connected not with faith but with works.

Paul never taught the gentile converts to tithe BUT he did teach them to give, regularly and consistently.

But he never said if you don't do this you are cursed with a curse.

I know of churches in our community that teach their congregation that you must attend every single church service if you miss any your salvation is in danger.

Is church attendance good? Of course, but not as a tool of salvation.

Is tithing good? Of course, but not as a tool of salvation its is an expression of love.

Love gives - Always!

Whatever you love will have your money, your attention and your time.

So the Galatians had added on to their salvation by making law a tool of salvation.

The Galatians, having launched their Christian experience by faith, seem content to leave their voyage of faith and chart a new course based on works.

*Christ can only be fully formed in you in an atmosphere of grace.

Eph 2:8 (TPT) For it was only through this wonderful grace that we believed in him. Nothing we did could ever earn this salvation, for it was the gracious gift from God that brought us to Christ!

Eph 2:9 (TPT) So no one will ever be able to boast, for salvation is never a reward for good works or human striving.

So when we "add to" we hinder our own spiritual growth.

The New You can only ever been seen as you and I fully and completely embrace grace.

Last week we ended with the understanding that the New Life is the Christ Life

EVERY real father desires to reproduce himself in his son.

The Father's dream is to reproduce Himself in us.

The very brilliance of Christianity is the ability of God to build Himself into us through the Word, so that in our daily lives we live like the Master.

Eph 5:1 (AMPC) THEREFORE BE imitators of God [copy Him and follow His example], as well-beloved children [imitate their father].

As children of Love, we are to walk in Love as Christ walked in Love toward the world.

The New You has God's life, God's nature and God's abilities within you.

The New You has the ability to live victoriously in life just as victoriously as Christ did.

The Father so loved the world that He gave His Son.

Jesus so loved the world that He gave Himself.

Now we so love the world that we give ourselves.

Gal 4:19 (AMPC) My little children, for whom I am **again** suffering birth pangs until Christ is completely and permanently formed (molded) within you,

The word *again* tells us that at one time Christ was clearly and abundantly evident in their experience.

The Galatian church had been birthed through the Grace message and had lived by faith - the beauty of Christ was clearly seen in these christians.

But now He ceased to be seen in the lives of the Galatian Christians.

The reason is found in the fact that the Judaizers in placing the Galatian Christians under law, had caused them to substitute self effort in an attempt to obey a newly imposed law, for their previous

dependence upon the Holy Spirit for the production of a Christ-like life in and through them.

The passive voice of the verb "be formed," tells us that the Lord Jesus dwells in the heart of a Christian in a passive way, and does not forcibly express Himself through the Christian.

He has given that ministry over to the Holy Spirit. He said, referring to the Spirit, "That One shall glorify Me" (<u>Joh 16:14</u>).

The Holy Spirit was not being recognized and depended upon by the Galatians.

Consequently He was not able to minister the Lord Jesus to and through the Galatians in a full measure.

The word *formed* is from *morphoo* which refers to the act of giving outward expression of one's inner nature.

In this verse Paul refers to the outward expression of the Lord Jesus in the lives of the Galatian Christians.

These to whom Paul was writing, were truly saved.

The Lord Jesus was resident in their hearts. But there was little of His beauty in their lives.

We are created in Christ Jesus. We are His Creation; and until Christ is formed in us, the World cannot see anything but religion in us.

2Pe 1:4 (Weymouth) ... become sharers in the very nature of God, ...

Remember I told you that the enemy isn't afraid of the old you - he was the master of the old you. He isn't afraid of the religious you - he is fond of religion but he is terrified of the New You.

The New You is unstoppable, invulnerable, unshakable.

Col 1:10 (TPT) We pray that you would walk in the ways of true righteousness, pleasing God in every good thing you do. Then you'll

become fruit-bearing branches, yielding to his life, and maturing in the rich experience of knowing God in his fullness!

Col 1:11 (TPT) And we pray that you would be energized with all his explosive power from the realm of his magnificent glory, filling you with great hope.

Col 1:12 (TPT) Your hearts can soar with joyful gratitude when you think of how God made you worthy to receive the glorious inheritance freely given to us by living in the light.

As you study the writings of Paul you become convinced that the ultimate of every one of those Epistles is the building of the Jesus Life / the New You in the individual.

His plan for building Himself into us is striking.

We must take Jesus' place. We must learn to act in His stead.

We must put on the NEW

One last thought: The New You is a world changer