



Mediterranean Postcards

Week two - *“In-Laws, Outlaws, and the Family of God”*

Acts 13 and 14, Galatians

Bottom line: Jesus is the family tie that makes all of us fit.

1. **“Do I fit?” is a question most people ask at some point in life.** Can you think of a time when you felt like an outsider or wondered whether you belonged? What helped you feel included—or what made the situation harder?
2. **In Acts 13, Paul addresses both “children of Abraham” and “God-fearing Gentiles.”** Why do you think it was so significant that Paul intentionally included both groups in his message? What barriers to belonging do people still face in churches today?
3. **The conflict in Galatians centered on who was “really” part of God’s family.** Why do people naturally create categories of “us” and “them”? How have you seen that tendency show up in culture, churches, or your own life?
4. **Galatians 3:28 says, “You are all one in Christ Jesus.”** What do you think Paul means by that statement? How can Christians celebrate differences while still maintaining unity?
5. **The message suggested that Jesus—not shared backgrounds, traditions, politics, culture, or preferences—is the tie that binds God’s family together.** What are some things that often compete with Jesus as our primary source of identity? How can we recognize when those things are becoming more important than our identity in Christ?
6. **The church is often described as a family, but families can be messy.** What does it look like to stay connected through Jesus even when disagreements exist?
7. **The sermon’s bottom line was: “Jesus is the family tie that makes all of us fit.”** What does that truth mean for someone who feels unqualified, disconnected, or unsure where they belong? How can our group and church become a place where people experience that kind of belonging?

Optional closing question:

As you think about your own life right now, do you find it easier to believe that *you belong with Jesus* or that *other people belong with Jesus*? Why?