

Household of Faith
Part 2: Love is Better
LG Discussion
4/25/21

ICE BREAKER

Which of the following three choices would you be most likely to do and why?

a. Bungee jumping b. Sky diving c. Scuba diving d. None. Ain't happening!

DISCUSS

Read Together: **Galatians 2:4,11,20. Matthew 5:17, Romans 6:6-7**

BACKGROUND

The theme of Galatians is freedom and liberty in Jesus. Freedom from the slavery of sin. Liberty to realize the goodness and favor of God. The group of false teachers, called Judaizers, were trying to attach to Christians as part of their salvation experience the Mosaic laws, ceremonies, and regulations. Paul pronounces that he is shocked by this. (1:6-7). He knows he has to correct this major offense to the 'true gospel'. In doing so, he brings to light great principles of doctrine and faith that will thrill us as we embrace their power in our lives.

1. **Have you ever been in an environment of judging?** Notice in the verse below the words, '*to spy on the freedom we have.*' Describe what that feels like. Then notice Paul's words, '*We did not give into them for a moment.*' Talk about how to do that.

4 This matter arose because some *false believers* had infiltrated our ranks to spy on the *freedom we have in Christ Jesus* and to make us slaves. 5 We did not give into them for a moment, so that the *truth of the gospel* might be preserved for you.

Galatians 2

2. **Based on the truth in the verse below describe how Christ has helped you to diminish the power of sin in your life.** Perhaps you can share something specific about sin losing power over you. How different are you today as you live free from it?

6 We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are *no longer slaves to sin.*

Romans 6

In Ps Randy's teaching he said, "*You don't have to sin anymore.*" What does that sound like to you? Is that worth shooting for?

7 For when we died with Christ we were *set free* from the power of sin.

Romans 6

3. **Ps Randy suggested that we should think of the law of God as instructions. How does that change your attitude toward the law, or does it?** How might it change your practice? We know there is value in the law (instructions). ie; 10 Commandments. Most of human civilization (governments), for thousands of years have adopted the Mosaic Law as a good moral and civil guide for behavior.

17 Don't misunderstand why I have come. I did not come to *abolish the law of Moses* or the writings of the prophets. No, I came to accomplish their purpose.

Matthew 5 (Jesus Speaking)

KEY: The law is good, but grace is better. The law has nothing to do with our salvation. Our relationship to God is based solely on the gift of God offered in the sacrifice of Jesus for the sins of mankind. (Romans 6:23, Romans 5:8, Romans 10:9-10).

4. Below the verse says, Paul took issue with Peter over being hypocritical over the matter of the Judaizers. He was catering to Gentiles one way and Jews another. What was at stake was the purity of Gospel. Jesus, plus nothing. Boldness is often a rare commodity. If we're going to be bold we need to make sure it's for the important things. Boldness does not have to be loud or pushy but it needs to be clear and firm.

Can you describe something that you are comfortable being bold about? Can someone in the group give an example of being bold for Jesus?

11 When Cephas (Peter), came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned.

Galatians 2

Chutzpah = Extreme self-confidence or audacity.

NEXT STEP

Reach out and engage someone about Jesus.

PRAY

Pray for each other to be bold and courageous. The true Gospel is the greatest News ever! People in our lives who do not know Jesus personally, deserve to know how much God loves them! Pray for the family of Central Life (Household of Faith). That when our friends and family come into our church they would know they are in a safe, welcoming, and accepting place.

MEMORY VERSE

20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ lives in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

Galatians 2