

Free at Last

Free at Last Part 1
Jesus + Nothing (Galatians 1)
Pastor Joseph
5.19.18

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures referenced in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to facilitate a discussion.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is not to pound through the questions but to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships, so use the discussion questions as you see fit, but emphasize the relationships.

Key verse for the book of Galatians:

Gal 5:1

“It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.”

Purpose of the Book:

The gospel was being manipulated, added to, and Paul wrote to bring correction.

Gal 1:1-5

Paul, an apostle—sent not from men nor by a man, but by Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead—² and all the brothers and sisters with me,
To the churches in Galatia:

³ Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴ who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, ⁵ to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.”

Gal 1:6-9

⁶I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you to live in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— ⁷which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ. ⁸But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let them be under God's curse! ⁹As we have already said, so now I say again: If anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, let them be under God's curse!

Gal 1:6

"I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you to live in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel"

What is the Gospel?

1) The Gospel = Jesus + NOTHING

Gal 1:8-9

"But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let them be under God's curse! ⁹As we have already said, so now I say again: If anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, let them be under God's curse!"

Acts 13:38-39

"Therefore, my friends, I want you to know that through Jesus the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you. Through him everyone who believes is set free from every sin, a justification you were not able to obtain under the law of Moses."

Deut 27:26

"Cursed is anyone who does not uphold the words of this law by carrying them out."

2 Cor 5:21

"God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."

Acts 13:39

"Through him everyone who believes is set free from every sin"

Rom 10:9-10

"If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved."

2) The "Different Gospel" = Jesus + Something

3) Fall in LOVE with the Word of God

Gal 2:16

“Know that a person is not justified by the works of the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ.”

Rom 10:17 (NKJV)

“So then **faith** comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”

2 Tim 3:16

“All scripture is God-breathed”

Hebrews 4:12

“For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.”

Psalms 18:30

“As for God, his way is perfect: The Lord’s word is flawless”

Matt 7:24

“Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.”

Matt 4:4

“Jesus answered, ‘It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

John 8:31-32

“To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, ‘If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.’”

Isa 40:8

“The grass withers and the flowers fall,
but the word of our God endures forever.”

John 1:1

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”

John 1:14

“The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

Being Men & Women of the Word is the primary way we grow in FAITH, and accept the Gospel of Jesus: Justification by FAITH, and not by works.

TALK IT THROUGH

1. Other than spiritual blessings, have you ever received anything that initially seemed “too good to be true”? Was it?
2. Read Acts 13:38-39 together. What are the main points of the simple gospel? Has this ever seemed too good to be true to you?
3. As a group, review what problem the Apostle Paul addressed in this letter to the churches in Galatia. (Galatians 1:1-9)
4. What’s the danger to us when we begin adding anything to the message of “Jesus + Nothing” for salvation and right-standing with God the Father?
5. Can you identify with Pastor Joseph’s illustration of carrying good works, rules to follow, and cares of this life around with you through the week and into church on the weekend? If so, which of these are you most susceptible to carrying, and how has your life been affected by this balancing act?
6. Discuss how the Jesus + Nothing truth correlates with James 2:14-26. Why are works important, and when do they become a snare to us?
7. Pastor Joseph said the way we silence voices of false teachers and come back to the simplicity of the gospel is by falling in love with the Word, the Bible. We’re all in different places in our relationship to the Bible, depending on how long we’ve known Jesus, and many other factors. How would you describe your relationship with the Word? What is one practical step you will take this week to spur on your relationship with the Word to the next level?
8. How many in your group are reading through the Bible this year with TFH? Today is the perfect time to jump in, if you haven’t already. Check out the reading program on the TFH App!