

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.

Sermon 6-2-18 Free at Last Pt3 "Stay in the Grace"

Colossians 2:6

So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him.

Ephesians 2:8

"By grace are you saved through faith; that not of works,"

Galatians 3:1-5

You foolish Galatians, who has bewitched you, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed *as* crucified? This is the only thing I want to find out from you: did you receive the Spirit by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith?

Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh? (*human effort*) Did you suffer so many things in vain? Surely it was not in vain, was it?

So then, does He who provides you with the Spirit and works miracles among you, do it by the works of the Law, or by **hearing with faith?**

1. Listen with Faith

Hebrews 4:2

For indeed the gospel was preached to us as well as to them; but the word which they heard did not profit them, **because it was not mixed with faith** in those who heard *it*.

Galatians 3:6-9

In the same way, “Abraham believed God, and God counted him as righteous because of his faith.” The real children of Abraham, then, are those who put their faith in God.

What’s more, the Scriptures looked forward to this time when God would make the Gentiles right in his sight because of their faith. God proclaimed this good news to Abraham long ago when he said, “All nations will be blessed through you.” So all who put their faith in Christ share the same blessing Abraham received because of his faith.

Galatians 3:10-13

But those who depend on the law to make them right with God are under his curse, for the Scriptures say, “Cursed is everyone who does not observe and obey all the commands that are written in God’s Book of the Law.”

But Christ has rescued us from the curse pronounced by the law. When he was hung on the cross, he took upon himself the curse for our wrongdoing. For it is written in the Scriptures, “Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree.”

Deuteronomy 30:19

“Today I have given you the choice between life and death, between blessings and curses. Now I call on heaven and earth to witness the choice you make. Oh, that you would choose life, so that you and your descendants might live!

Deuteronomy 28:1–6

“If you fully obey the LORD your God and carefully keep all his commands that I am giving you today, the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations of the world. You will experience all these blessings if you obey the LORD your God:

“Your towns and your fields will be blessed”

“Your children and your crops will be blessed”

“The offspring of your herds and flocks will be blessed”

“Your fruit baskets and breadboards will be blessed”

“Wherever you go and whatever you do, you will be blessed”

Deuteronomy 28:15-19

However, if you do not obey the LORD your God and do not carefully follow all his commands and decrees I am giving you today, all these curses will come on you and overtake you:

You will be cursed in the city and cursed in the country.

Your basket and your kneading trough will be cursed.

The fruit of your womb will be cursed, and the crops of your land, and the calves of your herds and the lambs of your flocks.

You will be cursed when you come in and cursed when you go out.

Galatians 3:13

But Christ has rescued us from the curse pronounced by the law. When he was hung on the cross, he took upon himself the curse for our wrongdoing. For it is written in the Scriptures, “Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree”

2. Don't carry the curse

2 Corinthians 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.

Galatians 3:22

The Scriptures declare that **we are all prisoners of sin**, so we receive God's promise of freedom only by believing in Jesus Christ.

3. LIVE IN YOUR INHERITANCE

Galatians 3:16

God gave the promises **to Abraham and his child**. And notice that the Scripture doesn't say "to his children," as if it meant many descendants. Rather, it says "to his child"—and that, of course, means Christ.

Galatians 3:26-29

For you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus. And all who have been united with Christ in baptism have put on Christ, like putting on new clothes. There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male and female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus.

And now that you belong to Christ, you are the true children of Abraham. You are his heirs, and **God's promise to Abraham belongs to you**.

Genesis 12:2-3

"I will make you into a great nation,
and I will bless you;
I will make your name great,
and you will be a blessing.
I will bless those who bless you,
and whoever curses you I will curse;
**and all peoples on earth
will be blessed through you."**

TALK IT THROUGH

1. How did you come to Christ? Was it through something you did or was it through Jesus' Grace?

2. Why do you think so many believe it takes more than faith (being good, following the rules etc.) to be saved? How can we be reminded that we are “saved by grace through faith” and not by anything we’ve done?

3. What is the difference between listening with your head and listening with faith? We all tend to drift into focusing on head knowledge from time to time. What helps you engage your faith muscle while listening to the word?”

4. The curse happened at the Garden. We were alienated from God, and from relationships with others. The Great Exchange happened at the cross. We have been reconciled to God. And now in Christ, the dividing wall has been broken down between us and others. Consider who you might be at enmity with. What would it look like to be a “channel” of his blessings to these people instead of a “reservoir”?

5. Talk your group through the “4 Monday”. Ask if they have done it yet and how it is going so far. If they haven’t begun yet, encourage them to do so!

4 MONDAY

- **Find 5 promises from the Word** that apply to your life right now. Write them down and speak them out this week
- Find an opportunity to **tangibly bless someone** who is outside your circle of close friends and family

3 Questions to ask in a message, or devotion life:

1. **What?** - is the scripture saying? What’s the context? What’s the main message?
2. **So what?** - how does it apply to my life? Are there any commands? Where is this message/passage talking to me?
3. **Do what?** - This is the obedience factor. Next steps. Now that I understand what the scripture is saying, am I going to do something with this? This is where discipleship comes in.