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## ***GALATIANS 1:1-5***

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### **GETTING STARTED...**

Can you think of a time when you started a project and never finished it? We have all had the experience of getting really excited at the beginning but then either being distracted by other things, or bogged down in the details. The truth is that can happen to our spiritual lives, and it doesn't take long for us to get distracted. This is what happened to the churches in Galatia and it's the reason that Paul is writing to them. He writes to the churches to remind them of what is most important in their church, the gospel of Jesus. Paul didn't make up that message, and there is nothing else that will save them. As we start Promontory Community Church, there is nothing more important than keeping our focus on the gospel of Jesus. We have started well, let's not trip up now!

### **READ THE TEXT: GALATIANS 1:1-5**

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Paul, an apostle—not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead— <sup>2</sup> and all the brothers who are with me,  
To the churches of Galatia:

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

### **UNDERSTANDING THE WORD**

1. The standard beginning for a letter at this time is to start with the person writing, who it is going to, and a greeting. How does Paul follow that outline and how does he deviate from it? How does his greeting set the stage for the rest of the letter?
2. Scan the context of Paul's church planting in Galatia in Acts 13:13-14:23. How was the gospel received?

## **REFLECTING ON THE SERMON**

3. What was the main point of the sermon?
4. What has God been impressing on your heart from the sermon?

## **APPLYING THE POINT**

5. What distractions exist that cause us to forget the message of the gospel? What can distract a church?
6. What are (at least) three ways that we can make sure we are centered on the gospel?

## **PRAYING & SHARING**

1. How can you share what you have learned with... another believer?  
An unbeliever?
2. Share and pray for one another in your life group. How can you specifically pray for and encourage one another in response to this text?



## How to Use this Guide

This guide is intended to help facilitate Promontory Small Groups as they meet to understand the Bible passage, discuss the sermon, and how to put it into practice in our lives. What is contained in this guide is not an exhaustive text analysis nor a full list of questions that can or should be asked during Small Group. This is simply a guide to help **start conversations that are centered on the Word of God.**

The Small Group Guide is separated into three main sections that are arranged with an intentional order: *Understanding the Word*, *Reflecting on the Sermon*, and *Applying the Point*. We want to first understand the Word of God, and then check that understanding by what has been preached, and then discuss how to put it into practice in our own lives. The order is intended to imitate the process of how the Word of God makes changes in our lives. Head, heart, hands, and all of it wrapped in prayer.

Our goal is not that you answer every question in this guide, but that you are able to discuss the Word of God in a way **that helps everyone follow Jesus together!**

*"Great are the works of the LORD,  
studied by all who delight in them." - Psalm 111:2*