



# GALATIANS

DEEPLY ROOTED FREEDOM

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## ***GALATIANS 2:17-21***

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

Some parts of the Bible are just hard to understand. While God's word is always clear, that doesn't mean it is always easy. We are sometimes called to think, study, pray, and work on a text for us to understand it. Our text today is one of those. Paul's writing was difficult sometimes, even Peter wrote about Paul's letters, "There are some things in them that are hard to understand" (2 Peter 3:16). However, when we take the time to understand God's word, we find that it is beautiful. In this passage, Paul reminds the Galatians that when we trust in Jesus, a change takes place in our life. We are made alive in Christ because of the incredible love and sacrifice of Jesus our saviour!

### **READ THE TEXT: GALATIANS 2:17-21**

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<sup>17</sup> But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we too were found to be sinners, is Christ then a servant of sin? Certainly not! <sup>18</sup> For if I rebuild what I tore down, I prove myself to be a transgressor. <sup>19</sup> For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. <sup>20</sup> I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. <sup>21</sup> I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose.

### **UNDERSTANDING THE WORD**

1. Take some time to follow the argument that Paul is making and try and put it into your own words. What is the main objection that is raised to the message of justification by faith?

2. Why does Paul speak in verse 20 about salvation in personal terms (ie. "I" "me") instead of general (ie. "we" "us")? How does this change how we see our salvation?

### **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 are areas in which we are tempted to ignore sin (lawlessness) or make our own rules (legalism)?
6. How does being justified by faith affect how we *live* as Christians? How do we live out our new life in Christ?
7. Give three examples (or as many as you can) of how you can share what "new life" looks like to an unbeliever.

### **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

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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*