



GALATIANS

DEEPLY ROOTED FREEDOM

GALATIANS 3:1-9

GETTING STARTED...

Have you ever gotten on the news? If you have ever been to an event that you later saw covered on the news, you probably know that being there was different than seeing the report. First-hand experience often gives a better insight than simply hearing about it. This is Paul's point as he writes to the Galatian churches. They experienced salvation when they put their trust in Jesus, not when they did the right works. However, they were forgetting what they themselves had experienced and so Paul is reminding them of what happened when they believed. Not only has that been their experience, it has always been the plan of God that salvation would come by faith.

READ THE TEXT: GALATIANS 3:1-9

O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified. ² Let me ask you only this: Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith? ³ Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh? ⁴ Did you suffer so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain? ⁵ Does he who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you do so by works of the law, or by hearing with faith— ⁶ just as Abraham “believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”?

⁷ Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham. ⁸ And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, “In you shall all the nations be blessed.”

⁹ So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

UNDERSTANDING THE WORD

1. Paul turns from his discussion with Peter to speak directly to his audience, what questions does he ask them? Why does he ask them these questions?
2. Look back at Genesis 15:1-6. How does Abraham's faith play a role in the promises being given? Why does Paul draw us back to this point?

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. Why do you feel people resist the idea of God not requiring works in order to be saved?
6. Have you ever struggled with this truth of Christianity? Why? How did you resolve it?
7. Tell of your salvation experience. What prompted you to respond to the Gospel and turn to Christ? What role did good works play in this?

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*