

Questions for Small Groups : Galatians 3 1-14 'Faith Centred'

1. Paul is clear – the Gospel is simple and there is nothing we can do to earn salvation, it is a free gift of grace received through faith. So - if obedience to God's laws doesn't affect our salvation (verse 2-5) – why follow God's laws at all?

2. Looking at the example of Abraham in verse 6-14, How did Abraham become right with God? How was this relevant to the Galatians – people who were non-Jewish, living 1500 years later?

Choices we face today

Paul's challenge to choose between grace and the law is as relevant today as it was then. So where in 2019 might we slide into a gospel of works without really realizing it?

3. **MORALISM:** *Salvation by good behaviour!*

In what ways might a focus on our morals, or moral living can lead to a distortion of the gospel that subtly says our salvation is due to the work of the cross *and* our godly moral behavior? That somehow 'being good' helps guarantee our place with God?

To what extent should churches be teaching on 'grace' and teaching on 'living Godly lives'?

4. **ACTIVISM:** *Salvation by keeping busy for God!*

In what ways might an overemphasis on what we do *for* God can lead to a distortion of the gospel that subtly says our salvation is due to the work of the cross *and* all the jobs we do for him? That somehow being 'busy for God' helps guarantee our place with God?

To what extent do churches reinforce this view as they recruit volunteers to help keep things running?

5. **JUDGEMENTALISM:** *Salvation determined by our list of requirements not God's!*

I wonder what's on our unspoken list of requirements that make someone a Christian in our mind? What sort of things cause us to think 'I can't believe they call themselves a Christian when they.....'? In what ways might our list of requirements lead to a distortion of the gospel that subtly says our salvation is due to work of the cross *and* our list of requirements?

6. How do we ensure we stick with the gospel of grace and not works? Faith and not the Law?

7. What do you find most inspiring about Galatians 3.1-14?