

Word for word  
through the  
Word  
of God



**Walk in the Word**  
**Live by the Spirit**  
A study of Galatians

**Deo Gloria**  
Community Church Rockingham





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# Introduction

The letter of Paul to the churches in the central area of modern-day Turkey is powerful. He passionately defends the gospel of grace and the call to live in the freedom and power of the Holy Spirit. He addresses a crucial issue: the nature of salvation through Christ alone versus adherence to Jewish laws and customs. In the early church, there was a theological tension regarding whether Gentile believers needed to follow Jewish laws, such as circumcision, to be fully accepted as part of God's people. Having received his gospel directly from Christ (Galatians 1:12), Paul fiercely defends the gospel of grace against any form of legalism or works-based righteousness.

The letter opens with Paul's astonishment at how quickly the Galatians turned away from the gospel they first received (Galatians 1:6-7). He emphasises the true source of his apostolic authority, not derived from men but from God, reaffirming the authenticity of his message. Paul's primary concern is that the Galatians are being deceived by false teachers who advocate for a gospel of works rather than grace (Galatians 1:7-9).

Central to the message of Galatians is the concept of justification by faith. Paul passionately argues that we are justified—made right with God—not by observing the law, but through faith in Jesus Christ (Galatians 2:16). This foundational truth underscores the freedom believers have in Christ—a freedom from the burden of the law's demands and a freedom to live by the Spirit (Galatians 5:1, 13).

Throughout the letter, Paul uses his personal experiences and theological arguments to illustrate the transformative power of the gospel. He appeals to the Galatians' own experiences of receiving the Holy Spirit and seeing miracles among them as evidence that God works through faith (Galatians 3:1-5).

Paul emphasises the fruit of the Spirit—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23)—as the marks of a life led by the Spirit rather than the flesh. He encourages believers to bear one another's burdens and restore those caught up in sin with a spirit of gentleness and humility (Galatians 6:1-2).

As we study Galatians, we pray that we as children of God, will grow in our understanding of God's grace,

deepen our faith in Christ's finished work on the cross, and embrace the freedom and responsibility that come with being children of God. Through this study, may we be transformed more fully into the likeness of Christ and equipped to proclaim the true gospel boldly in our lives and communities.

Deo Gloria!  
To God all the honour

# **Week 1 – The Only Gospel**

MEMORY VERSE – *Galatians 1:3-5 - Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to who be glory forever and ever. Amen.*

## **Introduction to this week's study**

Paul confronts a critical issue threatening the Galatian churches: the infiltration of false teachings that distort the message of Christ. He firmly establishes his credentials as an apostle appointed by God, not by people. He is astonished at how quickly the Galatians turned away from the true gospel he preached. Paul's language is urgent and uncompromising, he is going so far as to pronounce a curse on anyone—even an angel—who preaches a different gospel. He emphasises the importance of maintaining the purity and truth of the gospel message, centred on salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ alone.

## DAY 1 – The Source of the Gospel

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts, and apply the truths to your life:*



*Galatians 1:1-5 and 1 Corinthians 15:8-10*

How does Paul establish his authority as an apostle in these verses?

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List the key elements of the gospel that Paul emphasised in verses 3-5. What does each of the elements mean to you?

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**Prayer**



## **DAY 2 – Paul's Personal Testimony**

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts, and apply the truths to your life:*



*Galatians 1:13-16a and Philippians 3:4-6*

How does Paul describe his past life in Judaism? And how does he describe God's actions in his life?

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What was the purpose of God's revelation to Paul? What do you think is God's purpose for you?

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**Prayer**

## **DAY 3 – The Independence of the Gospel**

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts, and apply the truths to your life:*

 *Galatians 1:16b-20, Acts 9:26-30 and 2 Peter 3:15-16*

What did Paul not do immediately after his conversion? Why do you think it was important for Paul to emphasise this point?

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What does this detailed historical account of his actions mean for your faith? Why was it necessary that Paul assure the readers that what he writes is the truth?

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**Prayer**

## DAY 4 - Glorifying God

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts, and apply the truths to your life:*



*Galatians 1:21-24 and 1 Corinthians 15:9-10*

What was the response of the Judean churches to Paul's conversion? What is your reaction to people's conversion?

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In what ways can a changed life serve as a powerful testimony to the Gospel? In what way can your life be a testimony of the Gospel?

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**Prayer**

## DAY 5 – The Only Gospel

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts, and apply the truths to your life:*

 *Galatians 1:6-9 and 13-16, 2 Corinthians 5:17 and Romans 12:1-2*

Why is it crucial to maintain the purity of the gospel message? How will you discern between the true gospel and false teachings today?

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How does Paul's testimony demonstrate the power of the gospel? In what ways has the gospel transformed your own life?

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**Prayer**



## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION



### Prayer



**Read:** *Bible verses with each question*

### Discussion questions

Read Galatians 1:6-7 and 2 Corinthians 11:3-4. What does Paul mean by "a different gospel"? How might we encounter "different gospels" in our modern context?

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Read Galatians 1:13-16 and 2 Corinthians 5:17. How does Paul's testimony demonstrate the power of the true gospel? Share how the gospel has transformed your own life.

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Read Galatians 1:8-9 and 1 John 4:1-3. Why is it crucial to maintain the purity of the gospel message?

How can we discern between true and false teachings today?

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Read Galatians 1:10 and 1 Thessalonians 2:4-6. Paul states he's not trying to please people but God. How can we ensure our presentation of the gospel remains faithful to God's word rather than catering to human preferences?

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**Close in prayer**

## **Week 2 – Global Gospel Growth**

MEMORY VERSE – *Matthew 28:19-20 - Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,<sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”*

### **Introduction to this week’s study**

This week we’ll explore, Global Gospel Growth. In this passage, we encounter Paul's journey to Jerusalem and his interactions with the apostles, which provide crucial insights into the early church's approach to spreading the Gospel worldwide. This study will challenge us to consider how the principles demonstrated apply to our global mission. We'll examine the importance of;

- unity among believers
- the work of Titus on the islands
- the recognition of God's work across cultures
- strategic approaches to mission
- and the integral role of members being mature and ministry-minded.

## DAY 1 – Unity in the Gospel

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts and apply the truths to your life:*

 *Galatians 2:1-5*

Who was Paul's audience in Jerusalem, and to who was Paul's preaching before arriving in Jerusalem? Why was Paul in Jerusalem?

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How can we maintain unity with other believers, with a different focus on global world growth, while staying true to the core message of the Gospel?

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**Prayer**



## DAY 2 – Titus and The Word

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts and apply the truths to your life:*

 *Galatians 2:1-3, Titus 1:1-5 and Titus 2:1-7*

Who was with Paul when he went to Jerusalem?

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What lessons do we learn about Titus and His ministry? How can we implement these in our church?

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**Prayer**

## DAY 3 – The Gospel for all

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts and apply the truths to your life:*



*Galatians 2:7-9 and Acts 9:15*

The gospel for the uncircumcised and the gospel for the circumcised were both entrusted to Paul and Peter, respectively. How does the division of mission fields between Paul and Peter (Gentiles and Jews) demonstrate strategic thinking in global Gospel growth?

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Paul mentions James, Cephas (Peter), and John recognized the grace given to him and extended the ministry. In what ways can we recognize and support God's work in different cultural contexts today?

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**Prayer**

## DAY 4 – Gospel Growth

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts and apply the truths to your life:*



*Galatians 2:9 and Ephesians 4:11-14*

In what ways can you be involved in the ministry of the gospel?

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What training and equipping do you need to be able to be a respected pillar and a mature believer who is equipped for ministry in our church?

*(After, prayerfully considering, please email [peet@deogloria.org.au](mailto:peet@deogloria.org.au) / [nathan@deogloria.org.au](mailto:nathan@deogloria.org.au) with your equipping needs)*

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**Prayer**

## DAY 5 - The Gospel in your hands

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts and apply the truths to your life:*



*Matthew 28:19-20*

Write down the names of people in your life for whom you can pray for and with whom you can share the gospel:

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In what ways can God use you as an instrument in God's hand to bless the church in Turkey or Bali through our church's mission-ministry?

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**Prayer**



## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION



### Prayer



**Read:** *Galatians 2:1-10, Matthew 28:19-20, Matthew 24:14 and Psalm 96:3*

### Discussion questions

What principles about global gospel growth do we learn from these passages?

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Whose responsibility is it to spread the gospel? Give reasons for your answers. How does the division of mission fields between Paul and Peter (Gentiles and Jews) demonstrate strategic thinking in global Gospel growth?

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In what ways can you personally contribute to the spread of the gospel globally?

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What training and equipping do you need to be able to be a respected and a mature believer who is equipped for ministry in our church?

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Spend time praying for global gospel growth. Ask God to raise leaders, open doors in unreached areas, and provide the resources needed for the work of the gospel around the world.

**Close in prayer**

## **Week 3 – God Glorifying Living**

*MEMORY VERSE – Galatians 5:6 - For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love.*

### **Introduction to this week's study**

Galatians begins more abruptly than most of Paul's other letters in the New Testament. Paul launches immediately into his reasons for writing. This letter is directed to believers in the region of Galatia. Paul's credentials were under attack in Galatia. A group known as the Judaizers were trying to persuade those who believed in Christ, after hearing the gospel from Paul, that they were not truly saved. The Judaizers said they must also follow the Law of Moses. Paul was furious when he heard some of the Galatian Christians were starting to believe this. Paul stands on the truth that salvation comes by God's grace alone through faith alone in Christ's payment for our sin on the cross

## DAY 1 – Justified by Faith

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts and apply the truths to your life:*

 *Galatians 2:15-21*

What do these verses say about – How we are not justified before God (right with God)?

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What do these verses say about – How we can be justified (right with God)?

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**Prayer**



## **DAY 2 – The Christian’s Relationship with the Law**

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts and apply the truths to your life:*

 *Galatians 2:15-21*

What do these verses say about – the relationship of Christians to the law?

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What are the consequences of going back to keeping the law?

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**Prayer**

## DAY 3 – Living for God

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts and apply the truths to your life:*

 *Galatians 2:19*

What happened to Paul in verse 19 trying to keep the law?

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What did Paul stop doing?

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**Prayer**

## DAY 4 - Christ Living in Us

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts and apply the truths to your life:*



*Galatians 2:20*

What is your understanding of Paul's words "My old self?"

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How does this apply in your life?

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**Prayer**

## DAY 5 - The Importance of God's Grace

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts and apply the truths to your life:*



*Galatians 2:21*

How important is the grace of God for Gentiles?

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What is the difference between grace for a Jew and grace for a gentile?

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**Prayer**



## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION



### Prayer



**Read:** *Galatians 2:15-21*

### Discussion questions

A vast majority of people still believe in God. Discuss how most people think they can get “right” with God.

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In verses 15-16, Paul emphasizes that justification comes through faith in Christ, not by works of the law. How does this foundational truth impact our understanding of salvation and our relationship with God.

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At the **start** of your Christian life - what place did the keeping of the law had in your life? What place does

the law have **later in** your Christian life – Is there any change?

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How does Paul's statement "Christ lives in me" (v.20) shape our understanding of the Christian life? What are the practical implications of this reality?

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**Close in prayer**

# **Week 4 – Living in the Promise of the Holy Spirit**

MEMORY VERSE – *Galatians 3:14 - He redeemed us so that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Holy Spirit."*

## **Introduction to this week's study**

In this week's study, we focus on the difference between living under the law and living by faith in the promise of the Holy Spirit. We will explore the relationship between the law, faith, and the promise given to Abraham, which finds its fulfillment in Christ. This will help us understand the significance of Christ's redemptive work and how it enables us to receive the promised Holy Spirit.

We'll consider how these truths apply to our lives today, examining how we can live by faith in Christ and through the power of the Holy Spirit, rather than relying on our own efforts to achieve righteousness. Are you embracing the Spirit's work in your life?

## DAY 1 – Foolishness vs Faith

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts and apply the truths to your life:*



*Galatians 3:1-6 and Ephesians 1:13-14*

Why does Paul call the Galatians "foolish"? What had they done that warranted such a strong rebuke?

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What causes believers to "begin with the Spirit and end up living in the flesh?"

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**Prayer**



## DAY 2 – The law and faith

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts and apply the truths to your life:*

 Galatians 3:7-12.

What are the differences between the law and faith?  
Make a list.

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Can you recall a time in your life when you felt pressured to earn God's approval through your actions? How has your understanding of living by faith impacted your relationship with God and your daily life?

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**Prayer**

## DAY 3 - Faith in Christ

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts and apply the truths to your life:*



*Galatians 3:13-14, Deuteronomy 27:26, Romans 6:23 and Romans 5:20-21.*

What has Christ Redeemed us **from**, what would have been the consequences if it was not for Christ? What has Christ Redeemed us **to** in Galatians 3:14 and Romans 5:20-21? What was promised for us?

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Read Galatians 3:14 again. What practical steps can you take to be more open to the Holy Spirit's work in your life? How might this impact your decision-making, relationships, or daily routines?

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**Prayer**

## **DAY 4 – The Law, faith, Christ and the Spirit**

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts and apply the truths to your life:*

 *Galatians 3:15-16, Romans 4:16 and Genesis 22:17-18*

Who is the "seed" referring to in Galatians 3:16, and why is this significant for understanding the promise of the Holy Spirit?

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In your daily life, how can you practically centre your thoughts and actions more on Christ? What specific habit or practice could you adopt this week to keep Jesus at the forefront of your faith?

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**Prayer**

## **DAY 5 – The Promise in Practice**

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts and apply the truths to your life:*

 *Galatians 3:10-12, 13-14 and John 14:15-21*

How can we ensure that we are living by faith and not relying on our own works to receive the Holy Spirit?

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How can you share the message of the promise of the Holy Spirit with others?

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**Prayer**



## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION



### Prayer



**Read:** *Galatians 3:1-22*

### Discussion questions

Do you find yourself relying on following rules or traditions to feel justified before God rather than on the promise of Christ and the Holy Spirit? How does this passage challenge that mindset?

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How do you understand the relationship between faith and the law in your own spiritual life?

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What guardrails can we put in place to ensure that we are living by faith and not relying on our own works to receive the Holy Spirit?

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How do you understand the promise of the Holy Spirit actively involved in your daily life? Can you share experiences where you've seen the Spirit's work in your life as a result of faith?

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**Close in prayer**

## Week 5 – Heirs of the Promise

MEMORY VERSE - *Galatians 3:28* - *There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male and female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus.*

### Introduction to this week's study

Paul begins this chapter by calling the Galatian Christians foolish for believing false teachings. **First**, Paul talks about the Galatian believers' own experience of coming to Christ. Not only did they "see" Christ crucified in Paul's teaching, they experienced firsthand the arrival of the Holy Spirit after they believed. **Second**, Paul begins to quote the Scriptures. Perhaps the Galatians will be persuaded from the same parts of God's Word the Judaizers are distorting to mislead them. **Finally**, Paul presents to the Galatians a legal argument. Covenants are legal documents. As such, the covenant God made with Israel, recorded in the Law, did not undo the covenant He made with Abraham. The promises of that covenant remained in place until the arrival of Jesus. Now all who come to Christ by faith are entitled to share in that inheritance, including non-Jewish people known as Gentiles.

## DAY 1 – The way of the law

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts and apply the truths to your life:*



*Galatians 3:24 and Romans 7:7-12*

What does Paul say is the purpose of the law?  
(Galatians 3:19 and 24.)

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What does Paul mean by saying the law was our "guardian" until Christ came? How does understanding the law's purpose help us appreciate the role of faith in Christ?

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**Prayer**



## DAY 2 – The Way of Faith

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts and apply the truths to your life:*



*Galatians 3:25 and Ephesians 2:8-10*

What do you understand about the way of faith (verse 25)? Why don't we need the law as guardian anymore?

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What does it mean to be "children of God through faith"? How does your identity as God's children impact your daily life?

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**Prayer**

## DAY 3 – In Christ

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts and apply the truths to your life:*



*Galatians 3:26-27 and Romans 6:3-4*

How do you understand the concept of clothing yourself with Christ (NLT)? In what ways should "putting on Christ" be evident in your life?

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How are we united in Christ (3:27)?

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## Prayer

## DAY 4 – One in Christ Jesus

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts and apply the truths to your life:*



*Galatians 3:28 and Colossians 3:11-14*

If there are no longer Jews, Gentiles, slave or free – where do we belong then? Where do you see yourself (personally)?

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How does this unity in Christ challenge cultural norms, both in Paul's time and ours? In what ways can you promote and live accordingly?

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**Prayer**

## DAY 5 - Heirs

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts and apply the truths to your life:*



*Galatians 3:29 and Romans 8:16-17*

What makes us heirs of Abraham? What was God's promise to Abraham? How does this promise impact on you?

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How should your status as an heir influence your perspective on life and eternity?

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**Prayer**



## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION



### Prayer



**Read:** *Galatians 3:23-29*

### Discussion questions

Paul switches in these verses from “we” to talk about “you”. Who does “**we**” refer to? Who does “**you**” refer to? Why are the “we” and “you” important in the context of the passage and for today?

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Now that the law is no longer operational (as guardian), what does this do to the barriers between Jews and Gentiles and how does it affect our Christian living?

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Read Ephesians 2:14-16. How does Paul's statement about unity in Christ (Galatians 3:28) challenge social norms, both in Paul's time and ours?

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Read Romans 4:16-17. Who can now be an offspring of Abraham and how? What does it mean to be "Abraham's seed, heir according to the promise" (Galatians 3:28)?

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**Close in prayer**

## **Week 6 – A life of hope with the Holy Spirit**

MEMORY VERSE – *Galatians 5:1<sup>a</sup> - It is for freedom that Christ has set us free.*

### **Introduction to this week's study**

Paul writes this letter to the Galatians with three key ideas: that whilst travelling on a normal day to work he had a personal encounter with God, that the gospel justifies believers, not works or rituals, and that the Holy Spirit empowers our continuous walk with God. One particular study state that Paul was undoing what missionaries had inaccurately built into the Galatian faith; that following Jewish customs could make them more acceptable to God. He countered this perspective by highlighting that obedience to God through direct relation by the Holy Spirit leads to true freedom. Our God sets people free because of His liberating qualities, His generosity and His loving eternal plan.

Now the Lord is the Spirit and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom- 2 Corinthians 3:17.

## **DAY 1 – Freedom versus slavery**

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts and apply the truths to your life:*



*Galatians 5:1 and 2 Corinthians 3:17*

Is your/mankind's freedom important to God? Why?  
Why not?

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How does the Holy Spirit make a 2000-year-old crucifixion event relevant to you?

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With the exceptional cost of Jesus on the cross, how free are you today? Why, why not?

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**Prayer**



## DAY 2 – Cut it out!

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts and apply the truths to your life:*

 *Galatians 5:2 and Genesis 17*

God established His covenant with Abraham through circumcision, why would Paul say this is now redundant?

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Is there a similar message in circumcision and the crucifixion? Explain.

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Does God contradict Himself or does He build upon previous layers of established truth?

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**Prayer**

## DAY 3 -Love changes everything

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts and apply the truths to your life:*

 *Galatians 5:5-6 and 22-23a*

Why is Paul disregarding all attempts to attain righteousness for the Galatian church through works?

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Is there a difference between someone living according to a law/policy compared to someone driven by love? Think of people who exemplify living by love. What drives you?

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**Prayer**

## DAY 4 – Running to win

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts and apply the truths to your life:*



*Galatians 5:7-9 and 1 Corinthians 9:19-27*

How well do you think you are running your spiritual race?

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Is Paul wavering in His faith when he says that he becomes all things to all people?

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How can the Holy Spirit help you to ‘run your race’ in such a way that you are not compromising your values, but rather that you’re increasing your impact?

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**Prayer**

## **DAY 5 - Freedom is offensive to oppressors**

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts and apply the truths to your life:*

 *Galatians 5:10-12, Exodus 5:2 and 12:34*

The Israelites escaped Pharaoh with “yeast-less dough.” Why is this significant to understand and is it relevant to us? Why does Pharaoh not have a spirit of freedom?

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In your own life, how do you discern between true spiritual freedom and false teachings that may seem appealing? Can you think of a specific example of a time when you had to make such a distinction?

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**Prayer**



## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION



### Prayer



*Galatians 5:1-12, 1 Corinthians 9:19-27 and 2 Corinthians 3:17*

### Discussion questions

How does the Holy Spirit make a 2000-year-old crucifixion event relevant to you?

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How can the Holy Spirit help you to 'run your race' in such a way that you are not compromising your values, but rather that you're increasing your impact?

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Why did Pharoah not want to allow the Israelites to be “free” and is this a reflection of our current environment in Australia in any way?

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How do we balance our freedom in Christ with our responsibility to love others and not cause them to stumble? Can you think of a specific situation where this balance is challenging?

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**Close in prayer**

# **Week 7 – A Walk with God, led by the Holy Spirit**

MEMORY VERSE – *Galatians 5:14 - For the entire law is summed up in this one command: “Love your neighbour as yourself”.*

## **Introduction to this week’s study**

The character of a loving God is to restore mankind, that has fallen into sin, and to restore them to their former state. When someone has had a catastrophic fall, they need serious rehabilitation which can include learning to walk, to speak and even eat once again. This physical comparison is how man has fallen spiritually, and we need to learn how to live a life of communion with God through the rehabilitation of the Holy Spirit. God wants us to walk with Him, talk with Him, be with Him and enjoy the fruitfulness of our communion with Him. Allow the Holy Spirit to continue to enable you to walk a life worthy of the calling you have received in Christ.

## **DAY 1 – Calling all passengers...**

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts and apply the truths to your life:*



*Galatians 5:13 and Ephesians 4:1*

Not only pastors and missionaries are called; we are all called by God. Called to be free. Reflect on this.

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If Christ called you to be free, how can you respond to Him in a worthy manner?

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How does Paul suggest we balance our freedom from the Law and our responsibility to the Spirit?

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**Prayer**



## **DAY 2 – Walk as a servant of love**

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts and apply the truths to your life:*

 *Galatians 5:13*

Why is it a sign of immaturity if you need rules to govern your actions?

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Why are we expected to serve those around us in humility and love?

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Give at least one idea for how you can serve someone in love today. Write it down and try to do it today.

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**Prayer**

### **DAY 3 -Jesus fulfills the Law**

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts and apply the truths to your life:*



*Galatians 5:14 and Matthew 5:17*

Jesus said that He did not come to break the law but to fulfill it. How is this an example for us to fulfill the law?

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If Abraham is used as a predecessor of our potential to be connected with God, how are we to walk blamelessly before God?

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**Prayer**

## DAY 4 – Our walk includes others

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts and apply the truths to your life:*



*Galatians 5:14 and Genesis 17:1-8*

This law was first jotted down (in Leviticus) about 1300 BC. What does it mean to love your neighbour?

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Think about your typical week. What are 2-3 specific ways you could show love to your neighbours (both literal neighbours and those you interact with) that you aren't currently doing? How might implementing these actions, change your relationships or the community?

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**Prayer**

## **DAY 5 - Bite the hand that feeds you**

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts and apply the truths to your life:*

 *Galatians 5:15, Matthew 26:26-28 and John 6:53-58*

What does it mean to eat of Jesus' "flesh?" Why did the disciples in the first century find this such a difficult teaching to comprehend?

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Think about your recent interactions with fellow believers. Have there been any instances where you've engaged in "biting and devouring" behaviour (such as gossip, harsh criticism, or divisive actions)? How can you address and change these behaviours?

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**Prayer**



## **SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION**



### **Prayer**



*Galatians 5:13-15, Matthew 5:17 and John 6:53-58*

### **Discussion questions**

Not only pastors and missionaries are called; we are all called by God. What does it mean to you that we are called to be free. Discuss.

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How can you serve others in humility and love in your direct circle of influence? What will be the fruit of this if you do this effectively?

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Jesus said that He did not come to break the law but to fulfil it. How are we to fulfil the law?

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What can we do to avoid 'feeding' on the wrong people? How do we practically feed on Christ according to scripture?

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**Close in prayer**

## **Week 8 – Spirit vs Flesh**

MEMORY VERSE – *Galatians 5:17a - For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other.*

### **Introduction to this week's study**

Paul urges the Galatians, and all believers, to "walk by the Spirit." The Spirit of God guides believers to live in righteousness and godliness. In contrast, the flesh symbolises our sinful nature, prone to selfish desires and actions that oppose God's will. Paul emphasises that these two forces are in constant opposition to one another, ensuring that we do not always do what we intend. This struggle is not merely an external conflict but an internal one that requires vigilant discernment and reliance on the Spirit's power. To illustrate the consequences of yielding to the desires of the flesh, Paul provides a stark contrast between the "works of the flesh" and the "fruit of the Spirit." The works of the flesh, he lists, are evident and destructive, leading to division, immorality, and spiritual death.

## DAY 1 – Walking by the Spirit

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts, and apply the truths to your life:*



*Galatians 5:16-18 and Romans 8:5-8*

What does Paul mean by "walk by the Spirit"? How can we practically apply this in our daily lives?

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How does walking by the Spirit prevent us from gratifying the desires of the flesh?

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**Prayer**



## DAY 2 – The Works of the Flesh

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts, and apply the truths to your life:*



*Galatians 5:19-21 and Colossians 3:5-9*

Why do you think Paul provides such a detailed list of the works of the flesh? How do these works of the flesh manifest in our modern society?

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What does Paul mean when he says those who practice such things "will not inherit the kingdom of God?" What are the practical implications on your life?

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**Prayer**

## DAY 3 – The Battle Within

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts, and apply the truths to your life:*



*Galatians 5:17 and Romans 7:15-25*

How does Paul describe the conflict between the Spirit and the flesh? How does understanding this conflict help us in our Christian Walk?

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In what ways have you experienced this internal struggle in your own life?

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**Prayer**

## DAY 4 - Freedom in Christ

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts, and apply the truths to your life:*



*Galatians 5:16,18 and John 8:31-36*

How does walking by the Spirit relate to the concept of freedom in Christ? Why does Paul emphasise that we are not under the law if we are led by the Spirit?

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How can we experience true freedom while also living in obedience to God?

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**Prayer**

## DAY 5 – Overcoming the Flesh

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts, and apply the truths to your life:*



*Galatians 5:16-21 and Ephesians 6:10-18*

What practical steps can you take to "walk by the Spirit" and resist the desires of the flesh?

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Spend time in prayer and ask God to forgive you for your sinful desires and ask God to teach you to walk in the Spirit.

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**Prayer**



## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION



### Prayer



**Read:** *Galatians 5:16-21*

### Discussion questions

Read Galatians 5:16 and Romans 8:5-6. What does Paul mean by "walk by the Spirit." How can we practically apply this concept in our daily lives?

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Read Galatians 5:17 and Romans 7:15-20. These verses describe a conflict between the Spirit and the flesh. How do you experience this struggle in your own life? How does understanding this conflict help us in our Christian walk?

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Read Galatians 5:19-21 and Colossians 3:5-9. Looking at the list of the works of the flesh in

Galatians 5:19-21, how do these manifest in our modern society? What impact do these things have in your life and how can we overcome the desires of the flesh?

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Why do you think Paul takes such a serious tone? How can we lovingly warn and encourage each other in our Christian community to avoid these pitfalls?

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**Close in prayer**

## **Week 9 – Living by the Spirit**

MEMORY VERSE – *Galatians 5:25 - If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.*

### **Introduction to this week's study**

Paul gives believers a beautiful description of the Christian life that stands in stark contrast to the works of the flesh. Galatians 5:22-26 presents us with the fruit of the Spirit - a vivid portrayal of the character traits that naturally emerge when we allow the Holy Spirit to guide and transform our lives. In the previous week's study, we read about the destructive nature of living according to our sinful nature. This week's study turns our attention to the positive outcome of a Spirit-led life. The fruit of the Spirit is the natural effect of a life yielded to God's transforming power. Paul doesn't stop at merely listing these traits. He goes on to emphasise the practical implications of living by the Spirit, including the need to crucify our sinful nature with its passions and desires. He reminds us that if we live by the Spirit, we must also keep in step with the Spirit, aligning our actions with our professed faith.

# DAY 1 – The Fruit of the Spirit - Love, Joy, and Peace

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts, and apply the truths to your life:*



*Galatians 5:22-23 and 1 Corinthians 13:4-7*

How does Paul's description of love in 1 Corinthians 13 help us understand love as a fruit of the Spirit?

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In what ways are joy and peace different from mere happiness or absence of conflict? How can you cultivate these first three aspects of the fruit of the Spirit in your daily life?

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**Prayer**



## **DAY 2 – The Fruit of the Spirit - Patience, Kindness, and Goodness**

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts, and apply the truths to your life:*



*Galatians 5:22-23 and Colossians 3:12-14*

Why do you think patience is included as a fruit of the Spirit? How does it relate to our relationships with others?

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In what situations do you find it most challenging to exhibit these qualities? How can the Holy Spirit help you?

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**Prayer**

## **DAY 3 – The Fruit of the Spirit -**

### **Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self-Control**

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts, and apply the truths to your life:*



*Galatians 5:22-23 and 2 Peter 1:5-8*

How does faithfulness as a fruit of the Spirit relate to your faith in God? In what ways can gentleness be a powerful witness in our current culture?

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Why is self-control placed last in the list? How does it support the other aspects of the fruit? How can the Holy Spirit help you to show self-control?

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**Prayer**

## DAY 4 - Crucifying the Flesh

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts, and apply the truths to your life:*



*Galatians 5:24 and Romans 6:6-14*

What does Paul mean by "crucifying the flesh"? How does our union with Christ in His death and resurrection (Romans 6) relate to this concept?

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What practical steps must you take to "crucify" your sinful nature daily?

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**Prayer**

## DAY 5 – Keeping in Step with the Spirit

*Read the following Scriptures several times, observe the circumstances, write down your thoughts, and apply the truths to your life:*



*Galatians 5:25-26, James 3:14-16 and Ephesians 4:1-3*

What does it mean to "keep in step with the Spirit"? How is this an active process? How does Paul's warning against pride and envy (v.26) relate to living by the Spirit?

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Paul warns against "becoming conceited, provoking and envying each other" in verse 26. How do these attitudes hinder your ability to keep in step with the Spirit? How can you guard against them?

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**Prayer**



## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION



### Prayer



**Read:** *Galatians 5:22-26*

### Discussion questions

Read Galatians 5:22-23a and Colossians 3:12-14. Why do you think Paul uses the singular "fruit" rather than "fruits" (Galatians 5:22)? Which aspect of the fruit of the Spirit do you find most challenging to cultivate in your life? Why?

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Read Philippians 2:5-8. How does the fruit of the Spirit reflect the character of Jesus? How can we allow the Holy Spirit to develop these traits in us?

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Read Galatians 5:24, Romans 6:6-11 and Colossians 3:5-10. What does Paul mean by "crucifying the flesh

with its passions and desires" (Galatians 5:24)? How can we practically apply this in our daily lives?

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Read Galatians 5:25-26 and Romans 8:5-8. How does "keeping in step with the Spirit" (Galatians 5:25) relate to the concept of spiritual disciplines? In what ways can we encourage and support one another in cultivating the fruit of the Spirit and living Spirit-led lives?

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**Close in prayer**



DEO GLORIA



Glorify God -  
Making God's glory known

COMMUNITY



Creating community -  
Serving the community

CHURCH



A loving family of God  
in Rockingham

WORD-BASED



The Bible is the  
foundation of truth

CHRIST-CENTRED



Jesus is the centre  
of our faith

SPIRIT INSPIRED



God's Spirit inspires us  
to live and proclaim  
His truth

DISCIPLE-MAKING



Journeyming together,  
following Jesus in obedience