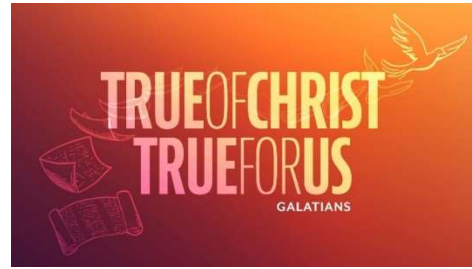


September 17, 2023
Sermon Discussion Guide
Galatians 3:6-14
Preacher: Jerrod



SUMMARY

Big Idea: Salvation has always been and will always be by faith in Jesus.

Last week (3:1-5), we saw that it is not only grace that “brings us in”, but also grace that “keeps us in”. Still arguing for the truth that justification is by grace alone, through faith alone, and in Christ alone, Paul further layers his defense of this doctrine in our verses today by leading us to “consider Abraham”. Such an appeal is noteworthy, as it is his family the Judaizers claim to be part of. The contrasting paths remains the same from earlier passages - faith vs works, which will yield their expected results, blessing or curse. With Abraham being justified by faith alone, we are led to see that the gospel is not God’s plan B, but rather, His plan A, from the beginning. The flow of these verses, 6-14 come to us in three waves - 1) Abraham justified by faith and therefore blessed, 2) no one justified by law keeping and therefore all deserving a curse, 3) the Good News that Christ has become our curse so that in Him we might be blessed, by faith, as part of Abraham’s family.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read Galatians 3:6-14

3:6-9. The Example of Abraham

1. How do you make sense of verse 8?
 - a. How does this fit into Paul’s argument for justification being by faith alone?
 - b. What makes this significant?
 - c. How do these verses shape and inform how we read and refer to the OT?
2. Discuss and consider the implications of the following quote from the sermon, *“The gospel was Plan A, and there never was a Plan B.”*
3. Who are sons of Abraham? What does it mean to be blessed?
 - a. Engaging someone who is unfamiliar with the Bible, how would you respond to someone who said something like - “Why should I care if I am a son of Abraham?”

3:10-12. The Effect of the Law

4. “Who has bewitched you?” in 3:1, and now - “under a curse” in 3:10. Why does Paul use this language?
5. What does it mean to be under a curse here in Galatians? Why is this the guaranteed outcome for those who “rely on works of the law”?

3:13-14. The Work of Christ

6. Christ became a curse for us... Why? How?
 - a. Discuss the gospel truth of double imputation (credited/counted as).
 - i. my sin → Christ, and His Righteousness → me (refer to 2 Cor 5:21)
 - b. Why are BOTH needed? How is this doctrine life-changing?
 - c. How would you respond to the thought: for God the Father to punish Jesus for sins he did not commit is unfair and unloving?