

DISCUSSION GUIDE

The Gospel Tribune

WOODSIDE BIBLE CHURCH

\$0.00

GOOD NEWS!

Truth Has Been Found!
Everywhere we turn, some...

DISCUSSION GOAL



To understand how the gospel transforms our lives and to be able to identify personal change that has taken place in your life since receiving the gospel.

ICE BREAKER



What is one piece of advice that's stuck with you for years and that you find to be true over and over again?

TEXT



Have a member of your group read the passage aloud.

Galatians 4:8-20

⁸ Formerly, when you did not know God, you were enslaved to those that by nature are not gods. ⁹ But now that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God, how can you turn back again to the weak and worthless elementary principles of the world, whose slaves you want to be once more? ¹⁰ You observe days and months and seasons and years! ¹¹ I am afraid I may have labored over you in vain.

¹² Brothers, I entreat you, become as I am, for I also have become as you are. You did me no wrong. ¹³ You know it was because of a bodily ailment that I preached the gospel to you at first, ¹⁴ and though my condition was a trial to you, you did not scorn or despise me, but received me as an angel of God, as Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ What then has become of your blessedness? For I testify to you that, if possible, you would have gouged out your eyes and given them to me. ¹⁶ Have I then become your enemy by telling you the truth? ¹⁷ They make much of you, but for no good purpose. They want to shut you out, that you may make much of them. ¹⁸ It is always good to be made much of for a good purpose, and not only when I am present with you, ¹⁹ my little children, for whom I am again in the anguish of childbirth until Christ is formed in you! ²⁰ I wish I could be present with you now and change my tone, for I am perplexed about you.

MESSAGE OUTLINE



This is what our pastoral team observed about the passage.

Big Idea: Gospel formation brings freedom.

Key Question: How are we formed by the gospel?

1. Remember our former bondage. (vv. 8-11)
2. Return to our former zeal. (vv. 12-16)
3. Receive Christ's formative work. (vv. 17-20)

DISCUSSION



- This week's passage is about the transformation the gospel has on our lives. Think about your life before accepting the gospel. What is the biggest change you've experienced since coming to know the Lord?
- In the opening of this week's passage Paul reminds his readers of the bondage they lived in before they found freedom in Christ (vv.8-11). What type of things try to enslave us and how can we be aware of our enslavement? Can you share a way in which you were formally a slave to sin, but have since found freedom through Christ?
- In verses 12-16, Paul points back to a time when the church in Galatia was living with passion and zeal for the Lord. When was your passion and zeal for the Lord the strongest in your life and how does it compare to your passion and zeal today? What steps do you need to take to renew your passion and zeal for the Lord?
- In verse 19, Paul expresses a desire to help the Galatian believers see Christ form their lives. Who's profoundly impacted you when it comes to your walk with Jesus and how did they help you become more Christ like? Who is in your life that you're helping to form into Christ's likeness?
- Read 2 Corinthians 5:17. What does being a "new creation" in Christ mean to you personally? Discuss what it means to have become a new creation instantly upon accepting Christ and at the same time experience the ongoing process of being formed by the Gospel.

LIFE APPLICATION



In Galatians 4:8-20 Paul challenges the Galatian church to remember who they were before Christ, to return to their original passion for the gospel and to be transformed into Christ's likeness as Paul himself has been. As a group come up with some ways in which you can renew your zeal and passion for the Lord and support one another until "Christ is formed in you." (v. 19)

Dot your ideas below and send a picture to your group to remind everyone of your action steps this week.

PRAYER REQUESTS


