

## 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 good news of the gospel grants us true freedom and what it means to stand firm in the freedom we find in Christ.*

## ICE BREAKER



Share a time in your life where you felt true freedom. Try to describe exactly how you felt.

## TEXT



*Have a member of your group read the passage aloud.*

### Galatians 4:21-31

<sup>21</sup> Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not listen to the law? <sup>22</sup> For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by a slave woman and one by a free woman. <sup>23</sup> But the son of the slave was born according to the flesh, while the son of the free woman was born through promise. <sup>24</sup> Now this may be interpreted allegorically: these women are two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery; she is Hagar. <sup>25</sup> Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia; she corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. <sup>26</sup> But the Jerusalem above is free, and she is our mother. <sup>27</sup> For it is written,

“Rejoice, O barren one who does not bear;  
break forth and cry aloud, you who are not in labor!  
For the children of the desolate one will be more  
than those of the one who has a husband.”

*(Turn to Galatians in the ESV bible to continue reading verses 28-31)*

## MESSAGE OUTLINE



*This is what our pastoral team observed about the passage.*

Big Idea: We are children of the promise and free in Christ.

Key Question: Where can I find true freedom?

1. The law brings slavery. (vv. 21-25)
2. The gospel brings freedom. (vv. 26-28)
3. Stand firm in your freedom. (vv. 29-31)

## DISCUSSION



- In this week's passage, Paul continues to insist that the law only brings slavery whereas the gospel brings true freedom. How would you define true freedom? Do you see those aspects in the gospel?
- In verses 21-25, Paul uses an allegory to further explain how the law leads to slavery, but the gospel produces freedom. If needed, look up the definition of an allegory. Then, as a group, discuss what each person in the story Paul shared represents. How effective do you think Paul's use of allegory was to explain his point?
- In verses 26-28, Paul affirms that as children of God's promise we experience freedom because of Christ. Discuss the difference between our actions leading to freedom and our freedom in Christ leading to acts of worship/service. Why is it important that the latter path is taken?
- Paul stresses in verses 29-31 that while we will find freedom in the gospel, we will also face opposition to this freedom. How have you found opposition from the world, from others, or even from yourself? How can you purposefully combat this opposition to stand firm in your freedom?
- Read 2 Corinthians 3:4-6. Paul writes here that our sufficiency comes from God alone and is nothing of our own doing. According to Paul, what is the sufficiency of God? How does God's sufficiency provide us with freedom? How can we stand firm in God's sufficiency in the light of our own insufficiencies?

## LIFE APPLICATION



In Galatians 4:21-31 Paul alludes to Jewish history to emphasize that the law brings slavery while the gospel brings freedom. Once we embrace this freedom through Christ, we can stand firm through life's oppositions. Discuss how you can encourage each other this week to stand firm in the freedom you have in the gospel.

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

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## PRAYER REQUESTS



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