

LIFE Study Notes

All you need is Jesus!

W/C 6th Sept 2020

Discredit the messenger and you discredit the message. The Galatian Christians had received Paul as if he were an angel from heaven, and when he proclaimed to them the good news of God's grace in Christ, they believed him. What had happened to them was a genuine work of God and it was bearing good fruit.

Then other preachers turned up and claimed that you couldn't be a true believer unless you embrace the Jewish religious law as well, including circumcision. This sent the believers into turmoil, they didn't know who to believe, some even turned away from the gospel that Paul had preached and turned to 'another gospel,' which wasn't really good news at all.

The truth was being compromised and Paul was not going to stand by and do nothing.

Paul is a servant of Christ, no more, no less. He has no authority to teach other than what Christ taught him. Christ died and rose again to free us from our sins, so that we could become a new creation. Paul simply will not allow this message of pure grace to be adulterated and therefore reduce Christ's sacrificial death on the cross to nothing



Ice Breaker: The truth is relative or is it? Discuss!



UP: Spend some time in worship: You might like to choose a song to play or plan an alternative act of worship that is appropriate to your group.

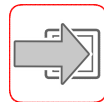


UP: Looking at God's word together:
Read: Galatians 1:1-10

Discussion Questions

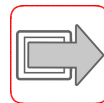
1. What does Paul consider to be the heart of the gospel?
2. Paul tells that Jesus, through his death, rescued us from the 'present evil age' (v4). What do you think constitutes the 'present evil age' today?
3. What has led to Paul's astonishment (v6)?

4. Why is the 'different gospel' not really the gospel at all (v7)?
5. Why were people being thrown into confusion (v7)? How do we avoid the same thing happening to us?
6. Why is Paul so passionate about the integrity, and exclusivity, of the gospel message (v8-9)?
7. How do you know if a preacher or teacher is genuine?
8. Why was Paul careful not to be a people pleaser (v10)?



IN: Spend some time in prayer.

- Pray for our missionary links.
- Pray for the financial challenges faced by the church.
- Pray for the leadership team as they seek wisdom in leading the church.
- Pray that we all might grow to know Jesus more and gain a passion to make Him known to others.



OUT: We are called to stay true to the gospel. In what ways might we be forced to compromise the truth of our convictions?