

# † FREEDOM

A NINE-PART SERMON SERIES ON THE BOOK OF GALATIANS

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## DISCUSSION GUIDE WEEK 1 (October 5-11) THE ONLY GOSPEL

### WELCOME.

Welcome to our DGroup! This week, we begin a new sermon-based study series called FREEDOM. This series is meant to take us deep in God's Word and explore the true essence of what we believe as God's people. So, get ready for some amazing life-changing discussions in the next nine weeks.

### WORSHIP.

**Sing:** *King of Kings (Elevation)*

### WORD.

**Introduction:** The Book of Galatians is a passionate defense of the gospel of salvation by faith alone, written to counter false teachings that emphasized works and obedience as necessary for salvation. The Apostle Paul wrote this letter out of his love for the believers of Jesus in Galatia who have been influenced by false teachers called *Judaizers*.

**Scripture:** GALATIANS 1:1-10

#### **Dig Deep into God's Word:**

1. Paul's unusual greeting hints at the severity of the situation in Galatia, suggesting that the churches have embraced false teachings to the point of jeopardizing their Christian identity. How does Paul's greeting in Galatians differ from his greetings in other letters?
2. The Apostle Paul seemed to be very emotional in writing this letter. What does Paul's tone suggest about the state of the Galatian churches?
3. The Galatian church was infiltrated by people called *Judaizers* who brought along teachings that were contrary to the true gospel. What is the true gospel and what does Paul mean by "a different gospel"?
4. Out of love and concern for the church in Galatia, Paul reaches out to them. Why is Paul so strongly opposed to the teachings of the *Judaizers*?
5. Read John 3:16, Romans 10:9-10 and Ephesians 2:8-9. In these verses, the Gospel teaches that Jesus' death and resurrection paid the full price for our sins, and all we need to do is to believe and receive what He has done for us by faith, not by our own works. What are the dangers of adding works to the gospel?
6. The *Judaizers* teach that to be a true Christian, one must embrace Jewish customs and keep the Jewish laws. What is the danger of perverting or distorting the gospel message?
7. Read Romans 3:22-26. In these verses, we find that our righteousness (being accepted in the sight of God) is not our own doing but by what Jesus has done. When we put our faith in Jesus, He imputes His righteousness on us. Why is it important for every Christian to understand this spiritual reality?

## **WORK.**

### **Apply God's Word:**

1. Was there ever a time in your life when you thought your good deeds would save you? What good deeds did you do?
2. Pastor Jon said in his sermon: "The teaching of salvation by grace through faith in Christ alone is the mark of true and biblical Christianity." Why does this teaching set Christianity apart from all other religions?
3. In Pastor Jon's sermon, he mentioned that "the grace of God changes everything we believe about being saved." What difference has God's grace made in your own life?
4. Just as Paul warned the Galatians, Pastor Jon gently warned us that we must be vigilant and careful what we listen to. What is the best way to be vigilant about false teachings?
5. What spiritual encouragement has the Holy Spirit given you through this study?