

† FREEDOM

A NINE-PART SERMON SERIES ON THE BOOK OF GALATIANS

DISCUSSION GUIDE WEEK 5 (November 2-8) HEIRS, NOT SLAVES

WELCOME.

Welcome to our DGroup! This is week 5 of our series, FREEDOM. One of the most powerful verses of Galatians are found in chapter 3—they resonate the heart of God—the very reason for which He sent Jesus, our Messiah.

WORSHIP.

Sing: *WORTHY (Elevation Worship)*

WORD.

Introduction: In this sermon, we are reminded that Christ paid the full price of our freedom, and that by faith in what He did, we are fully included as part of God's covenant family. Not bystanders. Not slaves. Heirs of our father Abraham through faith, by the grace of God in Christ. As such, we are called to live our inheritance and faith. In this part of his letter, Paul wanted the Galatians to understand three major points.

Scripture: GALATIANS 3:15 to 4:7

Dig Deep into God's Word:

1. To fully appreciate our salvation, we must understand the difference between law and grace (verses 15-22).
 - What was the purpose of the law according to this passage?
 - How does the law point us to Christ?
 - How does Paul contrast the law and faith as paths to righteousness?
 - Why is it crucial to understand the distinction between law and grace?
2. To fully appreciate our salvation, we must understand the price of our freedom and inheritance (verses 23-29).
 - Before coming to faith, what was our status in verse 23 and 24?
 - When God gifted us with faith to believe, what happened (verse 25)?
 - How did Jesus pay for our freedom and inheritance? Read 1 Peter 1:18-20.
 - What does it mean to be "in Christ" and what happened when we were "baptized into Christ"?
 - How does our union with Christ break down barriers?
 - What does it mean to be Abraham's seed and heirs to the promise?
3. To fully understand our salvation, we must understand the power of our position (chapter 4:1-7).
 - How does the analogy of a child and his guardian help us understand our relationship with God?
 - What does it mean to be "held in bondage under the elemental things of the world"?
 - What does it mean to be "no longer a slave but a son"?
 - How are we freed from this bondage through Christ?
 - What changed when "the fullness of time" came?

WORK.

Apply God's Word:

1. God has already done everything necessary to save us, we need only to trust Him. What does trusting in God mean?
2. Do you still struggle with the idea that your salvation is up to you? How do you break free from that struggle?
3. How should your position as a child of God affect your daily life?
4. Galatians 3:28 teaches us that as Christians, we should no longer operate according to prejudices our world has taught us nor the social barriers placed between us. We must welcome believers with no prejudice. As a DGroup, think of ways you can be more welcoming to others?
5. As a group, identify the social barriers that might still be in your hearts that should be broken down in order for you to welcome more people into God's kingdom.