

Galatians 4:8-31

“Stand Up and Walk Away”

May 2, 2021 (Week #4 of 6)

One of the most striking promises of the Gospel is that we will have freedom in Christ. But what does this mean and how can it change our lives? Let's dig into the book of Galatians and learn more about this remarkable letter where Paul is engaged in “the battle for the gospel”—the first great theological battle in the history of the church.

Let's Get Started:

1. What stayed with you from Sunday's sermon?
2. Was there any part of the sermon or reading of the scripture that drew you in and made you want to dig deeper?

Let's Get in the Word:

- Read Galatians 4:8-11
 - The Galatians had been pagans and had worshiped false gods. Now they were believers but were trying to keep Jewish law. What are some reasons that people go back into bondage after they have been set free from these kinds of “self salvation?”
 - Why do you think Paul was so upset with the Galatians for ‘observing special days and months and seasons and years’?
- Read Galatians 4:12-16
 - How had the Galatians treated Paul when he first preached the gospel to them?
 - What had caused a change in them?
 - What had happened to all their joy?
- Read Galatians 4:17-20

SET FREE

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- Quick review - Who are 'Those people' that Paul mentions in verse 17?
- Were they faithful to the gospel? How so?
- Read Galatians 4:21-31
 - Verse 24 says that the women represent two covenants. One covenant is from Mount Sinai and bears children who are to be slaves. What are they slaves to?
 - In verse 28, who does Paul tell the Galatians (Gentile believers) they are like?
 - Who had the Judaizers told the Galatians they were like?
 - Read verse 4:29. Paul says, "It is the same now". Read Acts 13:50 and Acts 14:2-5 to discover what he is referring to.
 - Verse 30 says, "Get rid of the slave woman and her son". What is Paul telling them about how they should deal with the Judaizers?
 - Paul is speaking figuratively in verse 31. Can you put the verse into your own words?

Let's Apply this to our lives:

- Why is Grace uniquely able to change a person's life? Have you experienced God's life-changing grace? If not, are you ready to now?
- What are the "false god's" you may be tempted to seek hope and salvation from in this life? Why is being able to name these things an important first step?
- How can you guard yourself against coming under the influence of people or groups who water down the gospel or spread a false gospel?
- Do you still have unanswered questions about this passage?

Challenge for the week: If you would like more background on Abraham, Sarah and Hagar, please read the following scriptures this week:

Genesis 16 and 17, Genesis 18:1-15 and Genesis 21:1-20