No Other Gospel: an 8-Week Study of Galatians

The Story Houston's Fall 2020 Discipleship Season

Session Four: The "Gospel" of Entitlement

Introduction

Welcome to our Fall 2020 study of Paul's letter to the Galatians! For eight weeks, we're exploring the words written by the Apostle Paul 1,950 years ago in the year 50 AD. This letter, called *Galatians*, may be the earliest of Paul's thirteen letters that are included in the Bible, and if so, that would make Galatians the oldest book in the New Testament.

Our learning each week is broken down into three categories: First, we'll spend twenty minutes learning about the CONTEXT of Galatians. Second, we'll spend twenty minutes exploring the particular CONFLICT that Paul is addressing in that week's reading. And third, we'll discuss the CORRECTION Paul offers the Galatians to get back on track.

This course has three requirements:

- 1. Do the work. Read the assigned readings. Write your answers in the Study Guides.
- 2. Listen to *The Story at Home Podcast* for more in-depth teachings on Galatians.
- 3. Ask questions. Ask the teachers on Wednesday nights. Ask your Group leaders and fellow members. Ask God in prayer.

This Week's Text

Read Galatians 3:15-4:7 twice, once silently and once aloud, making notes of any words and phrases that you're not sure about, and writing down any questions that immediately come to mind.

Context

What is the Law and where did it come from?

What did Jesus teach about the Law?

What did Jesus have to say about the sense of entitlement that was apparently prevalent among his people? (Matthew 20)

Conflict

What was the major conflict that Paul wrote this letter to address?

Why were Jewish people susceptible to a sense of entitlement regarding their place with God compared to the Gentiles?

What good is the Law now if Jesus made it obsolete? (Gal. 4:19)

Optional question: Why should Christians care at all about the Old Testament, especially the Torah (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy)?

Correction

How is the sin of entitlement a problem for many Christians today?

What would Paul tell Christians today who have a sense of entitlement about their place with God compared to other people?

What does Paul mean when he compares slaves to children in 4:1-7?

What does being baptized have to do with "clothing yourselves with Christ"?

There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Galatians 3:28