

No Other Gospel: *an 8-Week Study of Galatians*

The Story Houston's Fall 2020 Discipleship Season

Session Seven: The "Gospel" of Indulgence

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 5:13-26 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

Throughout this passage, Paul contrasts *flesh* and *spirit*. What are the key differences between the two concepts throughout the Bible?

The Bible writers often draw clear lines between two groups: the righteous and the unrighteous, the wise and the foolish, those who live by the spirit and those who live by the flesh, etc. Did they really assume that righteous people never do unrighteous things, and vice versa?

Conflict

In Galatians 5:16-18 what does Paul say is the conflict within every believer? (See also Romans 7:15,21-23)

How would you define the “gospel” of indulgence?

What are the fruits of the flesh and what do they lead to?

What are some of the acts of the Flesh you struggle with?

What does Jesus ask his followers to do in Matthew 16:24-26?

Correction

What are the fruits of the Spirit, how do they provide a correction to the fruits of the Flesh?

How is indulgence an issue among modern day Christians?

How can Gospel freedom be the antidote to indulgence?