

"Freedom"
Galatians 5:1-15

1. What principles or observations from Galatians 5:1-15 and Pastor Roger's message did you find to be helpful or insightful?
2. Paul declares in Galatians 5:1 that Christ was the great Liberator who set believers free from bondage and then encourages the Galatians to stand firm in that liberty and freedom in Christ. What does Paul say they were in danger of if they failed to stand firm (end of verse 1)?
3. Paul speaks of circumcision as an example of an entanglement that would enslave the Galatians to the Mosaic Law. Paul warns them against circumcision as a means of seeking righteousness by works. If so, then Christ and His saving work on the Cross will be of no value. Read Acts 16:1-3. Why does Paul not oppose the value of circumcision for Timothy's ministry?
4. Adding the Law to salvation not only ruins grace but it creates an entirely new obligation—a person is obligated to obey the whole Law which is impossible. If a person puts himself under any part of the law for justification, he is in debt to the entire Law with its requirements and its curse. What does James 2:10 say about trying to keep the whole law?
5. Paul then says in verse 4 that any who are seeking justification by the Law have been alienated from Christ and fallen out of grace. This is not referring to a loss of salvation but a loss of grace as a means to salvation if we are trusting in the law to save us. Salvation is by grace ALONE through faith ALONE in Christ ALONE. Why is this good news for the believer?
6. Read Galatians 5:7; 1 Corinthians 9:24-26; and 2 Timothy 4:7. What metaphor did Paul enjoy using to describe the Christian life?

How is the Christian life more like a marathon than a sprint?

These Galatian believers had begun the race well, but false teachers had cut in on them, causing them to break stride and stumble. Talk about a time when you may have stumbled in your walk with Christ. What got you back on track spiritually?
7. Rather than being in bondage to the Law or to the sinful nature (v.13), Paul says we should be bonded and in service to one another in love. We shouldn't allow our Christian liberty to become license, but do all out of love for others. How does Jesus affirm this same truth in Matthew 22:39 and Luke 10:25-38? What are some practical ways you can show love to others this week?