

OCTOBER 6, 2024

## TRUSTING OR TRYING?

Pastor Roger Poupart // Galatians 3:1-14

### PREPARE YOUR HEART & MIND

Begin this time in prayer, confessing any sins you can recall, thanking the Lord for the gift of His Word, and asking for His Spirit to guide you in your time.



You foolish Galatians, who has bewitched you, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified? 2 This is the only thing I want to find out from you: did you receive the Spirit by works of the Law, or by hearing with faith? 3 Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh? 4 Did you suffer so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain? 5 So then, does He who provides you with the Spirit and works miracles among you, do it by works of the Law, or by hearing with faith? 6 Just as Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness. 7 Therefore, recognize that it is those who are of faith who are sons of Abraham. 8 The Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, “All the nations will be blessed in you.” 9 So then, those who are of faith are blessed with Abraham, the believer. 10 For all who are of works of the Law are under a curse; for it is written: “Cursed is everyone who does not abide by all the things written in the book of the Law, to do them.” 11 Now, that no one is justified by the Law before God is evident; for, “the righteous one will live by faith.” 12 However, the Law is not of faith; on the contrary, “The person who performs them will live by them.” 13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us—for it is written: “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”— 14 in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham would come to the Gentiles, so that we would receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.



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## REFLECT/CONNECT

Use these questions for a time of individual reflection or to connect with others in meaningful conversation.

- What has stood out most to you in your study of Galatians so far?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- What types of things, ideas, choices, etc. come to mind when you think of the word "foolish"?

These questions are designed as a guide for individual study and to foster spiritual conversation with a group of people.

## GROW IN THE WORD

- 01.** Paul rebuked the Galatians for their foolishness in abandoning the gospel of grace. He reminded them with a set of rhetorical questions that they had received the Holy Spirit by faith, not by works. Paul urged them to remember that they received the Holy Spirit by hearing with faith (v. 1-5).
  - What stands out to you most in this passage?

## GROW IN THE WORD

- Why does Paul use such strong language to rebuke the Galatians? What does it say about the seriousness of a grace-based gospel received by faith alone? See also Ephesians 2:8-9.

- How does someone receive the Holy Spirit, and what is the Spirit's role in a believer's life? See Ephesians 1:13-14; Galatians 5:16-18.

**02. Paul used Abraham to illustrate that righteousness comes by faith, teaching that even the father of the Jewish people was justified by faith. Paul contrasted the blessing of faith with the curse of the law and emphasized that Christ redeemed believers by becoming a curse for them. Paul said this happened so that Gentiles could receive the promised blessing of the Spirit through faith (v. 6-14).**

- Why do you think Paul used Abraham as an example of righteousness by faith (and not by works of the law)? Remember: What did Paul's opponents try to force Titus to do (see Galatians 2:3)?

## GROW IN THE WORD

- What's the significance of Christ becoming a "curse for us"? Why is it important for both Jews and Gentiles? See Galatians, 3:10,13; Romans 2:12-16; 2 Corinthians 5:21.
  
- According to this passage, how does God see those who believe in him? How does God see you and how does that change your view of God and of yourself?

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC

Sunday, October 20 | 12:30 - 4:30 pm

Everyone is invited to join us for an afternoon of fellowship at Morgan's Wonderland during our annual picnic! Admission to the park, including new attractions, is free and we will have food trucks onsite if you'd prefer not bringing in your own lunch. Learn more online.

### THE TABLE: WOMEN'S MENTORSHIP

October 18 | 6 - 8 pm | Fellowship Hall

At this event, ladies will gather together in fellowship over a delicious dinner with women from all seasons of life to develop organic relationships. Learn more and register online or in the mobile app by October 15.