



OCTOBER 20, 2024

## BELONGING

Pastor Jason Uptmore // Galatians 3:23-29

### 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.

..... ❖ .....

23 But before faith came, we were kept in custody under the law, being shut up to the faith which was later to be revealed. 24 Therefore the Law has become our tutor to lead us to Christ, so that we may be justified by faith. 25 But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor. 26 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's descendants, heirs according to promise.



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## REFLECT/CONNECT

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

- What's been your biggest takeaway from Galatians so far?
- What does a typical parent think and feel when they think about their child?

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 described the Law as a guardian carefully surrounding and protecting God's people until the way of faith in Christ came. The Law protected God's people until they could be made right with God through faith in Jesus. Since that faith arrived, the guardian was no longer needed (v. 23-25).
- In what way does the image of the Law as a "tutor" or "guardian" change or influence the way you understand the purpose of the Law?

# GROW IN THE WORD

- Why do you think Paul emphasized the temporary nature of the Law? Consider the context of Galatians and see also Romans 7:6.

- How does knowing that you are made right with God by faith (not by Law), affect the way you approach your relationship with God today?

**02. Paul declared that through faith in Christ and baptism into Christ, all Galatian believers were one as sons to God. They shared the same identity in Jesus and the same relationship to God regardless of religious background, social status, or gender. All who belong to Jesus are heirs of the promise given to Abraham (v. 26-29).**

- How does the fact that God views believers as his children shed light into how God thinks and feels about you?

# GROW IN THE WORD

- What point is Paul trying to make in v. 28? In other words, what does he imply about where a Christian should find his or her deepest sense of identity?
- In what ways does Paul's emphasis on unity in Christ encourage you to pursue unity with the family of God even in the midst of challenges and conflicts?

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### ECHO WEEKEND

November 20 & 22-24 | Student Ministry

Students, join us for an unforgettable weekend as we gather in small group Bible studies hosted in homes across the city. We also need adult volunteers willing to host students, be drivers, or food providers. You can learn more and sign up to join us online or in our mobile app.

### HYMN SING

October 27 | 5 pm | Fellowship Hall

We hope you can join us for an evening of worship as we gather to sing some of the great hymns of our faith. All are welcome and childcare is not provided.