

Discussion Guide

Galatians 1:6-10

Opening Prayer

Guided Prayer: Pray asking for the Holy Spirit's guidance in understanding and applying the truths discussed and for wisdom and discernment against the false gospels of this world.

Recap

After a very brief greeting, Paul immediately begins rebuking the Galatians for so quickly turning away from the gospel, and ultimately God Himself. He goes on to say that there is no other gospel than the one he had preached to them. Paul places the importance on the message of the gospel and not the messenger by stating that even if an angel from heaven preached a different gospel to them that they are to be accursed; meaning they are cut off from God, marked for destruction, and under God's wrath and condemnation. This is one of the strongest warnings in the New Testament and uses some of the strongest language by literally cursing these false teachers. This warning is so important that Paul gives it twice. Paul validates his warning and rebuke by stating that he is seeking to please God and not man.

Understanding the Text

1. Why is Paul so shocked to hear that the Galatians have so quickly turned away from the gospel he preached to them?
2. Why is it so important to get the gospel right?
3. Who are the Galatians ultimately deserting by believing a false gospel? How is this true?
4. Why does Paul use such strong language against false teachers? Why does he not use this same language against the Galatians?
5. How does verse 10 of seeking to please God rather than man fit in with the rest of the passage from Galatians 1:6-10?

Practical Application

1. Does my service to others, participation in ministry, or daily spiritual habits stem from a desire to gain merit with God, or from a humble response to His grace?
2. How can you better discern between false gospels and the true gospel?

3. Have you ever had to admonish or rebuke someone for believing or teaching a false gospel? Do you feel you did this in a loving, biblical way? Why or why not?
4. What false gospels have you been deceived by (or are you currently being deceived by)? How were you brought back to the truth?
5. How can you lay your desires and comforts aside to be a better witness of the gospel to others without falling into the error of people-pleasing?

God Has More to Say

- **Romans 9:3** - For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh.
- **2 Corinthians 11:4** - For if someone comes and proclaims another Jesus than the one we proclaimed, or if you receive a different spirit from the one you received, or if you accept a different gospel from the one you accepted, you put up with it readily enough.
- **Acts 4:12** - And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."
- **Acts 4:19-20** - But Peter and John answered them, "Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge, 20 for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard.
- **Acts 15:24** - Since we have heard that some persons have gone out from us and troubled you with words, unsettling your minds, although we gave them no instructions
- **Galatians 5:10** - I have confidence in the Lord that you will take no other view, and the one who is troubling you will bear the penalty, whoever he is.
- **Jeremiah 23:16** - Thus says the LORD of hosts: "Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you, filling you with vain hopes. They speak visions of their own minds, not from the mouth of the LORD.
- **1 Thessalonians 2:4** - but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, so we speak, not to please man, but to please God who tests our hearts.