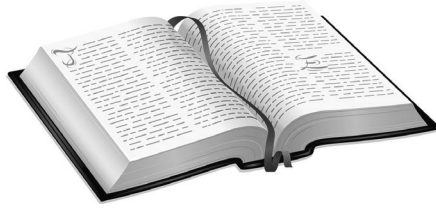


# *Bible Correspondence Fellowship*



## *Galatians Lesson*

The theme of Galatians is the apostle Paul's defense of the gospel of grace, without any ordinances of the Mosaic Law.

### **MEMORY VERSES FOR THIS LESSON:**

*For I would have you know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel which was preached by me is not of human invention. For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ. GALATIANS 1:11-12 NASB*

Judaizers were Jewish Christians who believed, among other things, that a number of the ceremonial practices of the Old Testament Law were still binding on Christians. Following Paul's successful campaign in Galatia, they insisted that Gentile converts to Christianity must abide by certain rites of the Law, especially circumcision.

Galatians is an eloquent and vigorous apologetic for the truth that man is justified by faith in Jesus Christ – by nothing less and nothing more – and that he is sanctified not by legalistic works but by obedience that comes from faith in God's work for him, in him, and through him by the power of Christ and the Holy Spirit.

## *Chapter 1*

**Please carefully read Galatians 1:1-24. \_\_\_\_\_ Check.**

1. (v. 1:1) In this chapter Paul defends his authority as an apostle in order to defend his message. Who chose Paul to be an apostle? Jesus Christ and God the Father
2. (v. 1:3) Note Paul's greeting is used in all of his epistles. Two words are consistently used to introduce Paul's message. They are: Grace and Peace

3. (v. 1:4) Give the twofold purpose of Christ's death for us:

1. for our sins
2. to deliver us from the present evil age,

4. (v. 1:6) What surprised Paul?

How quickly they were deserting God who called them in the grace of Christ

5. (v. 1:9) What did Paul say about anyone who preached any other gospel?  
let him be accursed.

6. (v. 1:10) Why didn't Paul seek to please men? He would not be a servant of Christ.

7. (vv. 1:11-12) Paul says he did not receive the gospel that he preached from man.  
How did he receive it? through a revelation of Jesus Christ.

8. (Acts 20:24) What did Paul call this gospel? the grace of God

The Galatians were being led astray by Judaizers (Jewish converts to Christianity) who told them they had to observe some of the things of the Law in order to be saved. Paul refers to his past way of life in the Jewish religion to show that the Law is not able to save anyone.

9. (vs. 1:15-16) When was Paul chosen to preach his gospel and how was he called of God?  
before he was born and by God's grace,

10. (vs. 1:11-18) After God saved Paul, he said that he did not see any of the 12 apostles for the space of three years (Also see Ephesians 3:2-13.). How does this show that he did not receive his gospel from any man?

Paul did not meet nor was he around any man that could have taught  
him the gospel

From whom did Paul receive his gospel? Jesus

11. (vs 1:18-22) In stating his independence from the 12 apostles and the kingdom gospel they preached, Paul said he saw only two of the 12 apostles, Cephas and James. Also he was unknown by the believers in Judea. However, he did preach in the Gentile regions of Syria and Cilicia.

## Chapter 2

In the first chapter we learned that Paul received the gospel of grace by revelation of the Lord. He mentioned that although he had been zealous in the Jewish religion, he forsook it for something better, salvation by grace. Then he says that he had preached this message of grace years before he met any of the twelve apostles. Chapter Two records some events and statements that further show Paul's authority and the doctrine of justification by faith.

**Please carefully read Galatians 2:1-21. \_\_\_\_\_ Check**

1. (v. 2:1) Paul's second visit to Jerusalem was how many years after the first one? 14
2. (v. 2:2) How did Paul know that God wanted him to go to Jerusalem? by revelation
3. (v. 2:2) What did Paul communicate (explain) to the leaders in Jerusalem?  
the gospel that he proclaimed among the Gentiles
4. (v. 2:3) Titus was a faithful preacher and companion of Paul. He came with Paul as an example of a Gentile believer. Titus did not observe which Jewish rite?  
circumcision
5. (v. 2:4) Give two reasons why the false brethren came to this conference in Jerusalem.
  1. to spy out our freedom that we have in Christ Jesus,
  2. so that they might bring us into slavery
6. (v. 2:5) Why didn't Paul give into (yield to) these teachers?  
so that the truth of the gospel might be preserved
7. (vv. 2:8-9) We read of the leaders of God's kingdom program in Israel in these verses. What are their names? James, Cephas, John  
(Note: Peter is also known as Cephas.)
9. (v.2:8) Peter shows his authority as God's apostle to the circumcised  
Paul was given authority as an apostle to whom? The Gentiles

10. (v.2:9-10) We read that the leaders understood the grace given to Paul to preach the gospel of grace to the Gentiles. Why did James, Peter, and John give Paul and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship?

Because they perceived the grace that was given to me (Paul)

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What solemn agreement did the leaders make with Paul and Barnabas?

Paul and Barnabas would go to the Gentiles, and they would go to the circumcised (Jews)

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11. (vs 2:11-12) The scene changes to Antioch, a city far north of Israel in Gentile country. According to Acts 11:25-26, Paul and Barnabas taught many believers there for a year.

When Peter was visiting the church there, he made a serious error. What was it?

He separated himself from eating with the Gentiles, fearing the circumcision party

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12. In verse 14, Paul said that Peter and the others did not walk according to the truth of the gospel. What truth was he referring to? (See Galatians 3:28.)

we are all one in Christ Jesus.

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13. (vv. 2:15-16) Though Peter and Paul were Jews by birth, what did they both know?  
a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ,

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14. (vv. 2:19-20) Paul says he was crucified with Christ.

What did he mean by this statement?

Being crucified with Christ makes him dead to the law so that he might live for God.

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16. (v. 2:21) What does Paul mean when he says that Christ's death for us was unnecessary if righteousness could be obtained under the law?

If we could obtain righteousness under the law, then it was not necessary

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for Christ to die to redeem us from our sins and reconcile us to God.

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Since it is not possible for men to be perfect,

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man cannot obtain righteousness under the law.

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## *Galatians - Chapter 3*

In chapter three, Paul is asking the Galatians to decide how they are justified, either by observance of the Mosaic law or by faith in Jesus Christ and the gospel of grace they had heard.

Please carefully read Galatians 3:1-29. \_\_\_\_\_ Check.

1. (v. 3:1) What truth about Christ had been clearly given to the Galatians?  
Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified.

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2. (v. 3:2) Paul asked the Galatians the following question: "Did you receive the Spirit by observing the law or by believing what you heard?"  
How would you answer the same question?  
personal answer (by faith in Jesus Christ)

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3. (v. 3:6) Why does Paul ask the Galatians to consider Abraham?  
"Abraham "believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness"

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4. (v. 3:7) The Jewish legalists relied on their descent from Abraham and their law keeping for acceptance with God. But who are the true children of Abraham?  
those of faith

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5. (vv.3: 8-9) What did the scriptures foresee?  
that God would justify the Gentiles by faith,

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6. (v. 3:10) What is the truth about those who rely on keeping the law?  
they are under a curse

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7. (v. 3:11) Paul uses two quotes from the Old Testament, one from Psalms and one from Habakkuk, to show that God's principle of justification by faith is true throughout the Bible. **Read Habakkuk 2:4 \_\_\_\_\_ check.**

Write out the last part of Galatians 3:11 as it is written in the Old Testament.  
The righteous shall live by faith.

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8. (v. 3:13) How did Christ redeem us from the curse of the law?  
by becoming a curse for us

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9. (v. 3:14) The blessings of Abraham include the promise of the Spirit. In Ezekiel 36:27, a prophecy of the New Covenant, God said, "I will put my Spirit within you . . ."  
How does this blessing come to us? In (through) Christ Jesus  
How do we receive the promise of the Spirit? through faith

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11. (vv. 3:15-16) We read of the promise God made to Abraham in Genesis 22:18.

**Please read \_\_\_\_\_ check.**

Who is the seed that is spoken of here? Jesus Christ

12. (v. 3:17) God made the covenant (promise) to Abraham 430 years before the Law was given. Did the Law cancel (do away with) the promise? no

13. (v. 3:19) The Law was given through a mediator.

**Read Acts 7:37-38, John 1:17. \_\_\_\_\_ check.**

Who was this mediator? Moses

14. (v. 3:19) What was the purpose of the Law? Why was it given to Israel?

It was added because of transgressions. until the offspring should come to whom the promise had been made.

15. (v. 3:22) What does the Scripture declare about the whole world?

it is imprisoned under sin

16. (vv. 3:23-25) The law is referred to as a schoolmaster or tutor.

Why are we no longer under this school-master or tutor?

Christ has come that we may be justified by faith

17. (vv. 3:26-28) Paul refers to the work of the Holy Spirit because He baptizes (places) us into Christ.

**Read 1 Corinthians 12:13 \_\_\_\_\_ Check.**

In Christ there is neither Jews or Greeks, slaves or free

What are we in the Spirit (1 Cor. 12:13)?

one Spirit we were all baptized into one body

## *Chapter 4*

In Paul's day a child was under tutors and governors until he came of age, at which time the father declared his son to have full rights and inheritance in the family. Chapter 4 teaches us our position, with all of its privileges and inheritance as sons of God.

**Please carefully read Galatians 4:1-31. \_\_\_\_\_ Check.**

1. (vs. 4:1-2) How was the heir treated as a child?

no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything

2. (v. 4:3) Paul mentions the elements of the world. This refers to the Law, the elementary religion of Israel, which instructed them in right and wrong as well as all the requirements given through Moses. How were children treated under this system?  
children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world.

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3. (vv. 4:4-5) How are believers made free from that Law?  
God sent his Son to redeem us

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4. (v. 4:6) Romans 8:15-16, also written by Paul, is similar. How do we know that we are sons and that God is our Father?  
God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts

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5. (vv. 4: 9-11) The Law (the weak, elemental principles) told us what sin is but it could not save us from sin, so it was unable to provide deliverance.

What question does Paul ask (v. 4:9b)?

how can you turn back again to the worthless principles of the world

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(v. 4:11) Why does Paul fear for the Galatians?

that he may have labored over them in vain.

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6. (vs. 4:12-20) Paul makes a personal appeal rather than a theological one. In spite of his physical appearance and infirmities, how was Paul received by the Galatians when he first preached the gospel to them?  
received him as an angel of God, as Christ Jesus.

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7. (vs. 4:15-16) There was once spiritual blessing and love for Paul, but now that he had reproved the Galatians for legalism, how does he feel they see him?  
he fears he has become their enemy

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8. (v. 4:19) How does Paul refer to these immature believers? as my little children

What is his desire for them? that Christ be formed in them

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9. (vs. 4:21-31) In explaining the difference between freedom and bondage, Paul uses the allegory of Abraham's two sons. **Read Genesis 16:15** \_\_\_\_\_ **Check.**

What was the name of Abraham's son of the bondmaid, Hagar? Ishmael

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**Read also Genesis 21:3** \_\_\_\_\_ **Check.**

What was the name of the son of the freewoman, Sarah? Isaac

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10. (v. 4:23) What was the important difference between these two sons?

But the son of the slave was born according to the flesh,

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while the son of the free woman was born through promise.

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11. (vv. 4:26-27) The barren woman was Sarah. What did she represent?  
the free Jerusalem

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12. (v. 4:28) Why are we like Isaac?  
we are children of (God's) promise.

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13. (vs. 4:30-31) To further separate the Galatians from the Mosaic Law, Paul refers to the scripture, "Cast out the bondwoman and her son . . ." Since the bondwoman represents the Law (a slave to the Law) referring to verse 7, who is a person who is not under the works and ceremonies of the Law? son of the free woman

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## *Chapter 5*

In Chapters 5 and 6 Paul urges believers to preserve their freedom in Christ and to walk in the Spirit. Christ has set the believer free. He is not under the Law or its bondage, yet he must not misuse his freedom.

**Please carefully read Galatians 5:1-26. \_\_\_\_\_ Check.**

1. (v. 5:1) What two things must we do to resist returning to bondage or slavery?  
stand firm and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

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2. (vv. 5:2-3) What would it show if a man submitted to the Jewish rite of circumcision?  
that Christ would be of no advantage to them

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3. (v. 5:4) If a person was observing the law (works) to be justified (counted righteous), what had he done?  
fallen away from grace

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4. (v. 5:5) The hope of righteousness refers to the perfect righteousness that will come with the redemption of the body at the resurrection. How are we to wait for this promise to be fulfilled?  
For through the Spirit, by faith, we ourselves eagerly wait

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5. (v. 5:6) In Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything. How does faith work?  
through love

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6. (vs. 5:7-8) **Read 1 Corinthians 9:24-26** \_\_\_\_\_ **Check.**

Paul often uses the word running to signify seeking the goal of Christ-likeness.

Paul wants the Galatians to know that they were hindered and persuaded by someone, but not by the one who had called them.

Who do you think hindered them? Satan, the Judaizers

Who is the one who called them? God, Jesus Christ

7. (vs. 5:10-12) Paul suffered persecution for preaching against circumcision (the need to keep the Law), which is to say that he preached salvation by faith in Jesus Christ.

**Read Romans 9:32-33** \_\_\_\_\_ **Check**

What is the offense (or stumbling stone) that Paul is referring to? Christ or the cross

8. (v. 5:13) How are brethren supposed to use their liberty?

through love serve one another.

9. (v. 5:14) How are all the requirements of the law fulfilled?

"You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

What does this mean to you? personal answer ( treat each other with love)

10. (vs. 5:15-16) How are we to live (walk)? walk by the Spirit

If we do this what will we not do? not gratify the desires of the flesh.

11. (v. 5:17) The word lust by itself means "strong desire." The NIV reads, "For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit, contrary to the sinful nature." This warfare in the believer, then, is between the Spirit and the flesh.

**Read Romans 7:18-23.** \_\_\_\_\_ **Check**

These verses discuss the struggle between the old nature and the new nature in the Christian.

12. (v. 5:18) How does the believer escape bondage under the law?

by being led by the Spirit

13. (vs. 5:19-21) The sins listed are referred to in verse 19a as what?

works of the flesh

The believer will not practice these things if he is led by the Spirit. What happens to the unbeliever who practices these sins?

they will not inherit the kingdom of God.

List any five of the sins: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies

14. (vs. 5:22-23) What fruit can only the Holy Spirit produce?  
love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,  
gentleness, self-control
15. (v. 5:24) In chapter one, verse 20 when Paul refers to our position in Christ; that we no longer live but Christ lives in us, what has happened to the old nature (the flesh)?  
it has been crucified
16. (v. 5:25) What does Paul say we should do if we are living in the Spirit?  
keep in step with the Spirit

## *Chapter 6*

**Please carefully read Galatians 6:1-18. \_\_\_\_\_ Check.**

**Read John 15: 8-10, Romans 13: 8-10 and Galatians 5: 14 \_\_\_\_\_ Check.**

We are to love each other as we are to love ourselves. This is not prideful love but nurturing love, love that watches out for the well-being of others.

1. (vs. 6:1-5) How are we to restore a brother (fellow Christian) who is caught up in sin (trespass)? in a spirit of gentleness  
Who is to restore a person caught in sin?  
the obligation is shared with all who are spiritual

Is it only the pastor's job? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes X No

2. (v. 6:2) In your own words write out the law of Christ (John 15: 9 – 13)  
love each other as Christ loves us (answer will vary)

3. (vs. 6:3-4) Whose work are we to examine? our own  
What do you think we are to use as a standard of measurement? God's word
4. (v. 6:5) Whose burden (load) are we to bear?  
Our own load
5. (v. 6:6) The word communicate means to share or give. Who is to share with whom?  
Let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches  
To share "all good things" would not be just material giving but sharing spiritual gifts as well. Also see Philippians 4: 14-19.
6. (vs. 6:7-10) Paul is referring to God's law of reaping the same things you sow.  
**Read Genesis 1:12 \_\_\_\_\_ Check.**  
Those who sow to the flesh, in gratifying their own desires will reap corruption  
The one who sows to the Spirit can look for a harvest of eternal life  
Name some things we can do to slow to the Spirit: answers will vary
7. (vs. 6:11-14) Paul declared that he would not glory in any religious tradition or practice of the law (as the legalists did). What did he glory in?  
He boasted (gloried) in the cross of the Lord Jesus Christ  
The religious world ceremonies and legalism were brought to an end by the cross, so Paul said they were crucified to him. What, then, did he mean "and I unto the world"?
- Read Galatians 2:20 \_\_\_\_\_ Check**  
That his (Paul's) sins were crucified with Jesus on the cross.  
When Paul was born again, he was no longer a slave to the world (or his own sin nature)
8. (v. 6:15) What counts and what is important for spiritual life?  
A new creation (being born again)
9. (v. 6:17) Paul suffered much for preaching Christ and the gospel of grace. What did Paul bear on his body?  
the marks of Jesus
10. (v. 6:18) What phrase does Paul use in closing all of his epistles?  
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit

What Bible Version did you use for this lesson?: \_\_\_\_\_

Your questions or Comments:

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