

11 April

 Break the ice

Write down what God is saying to you in today's message:

TOPIC: The Book of Galatians – week 6

 Let's hear your story

1. Have you ever had to explain to a friend or family member what it means to be baptized in water as a born-again believer?
2. According to v.26; how do we become sons of God? (**Faith in Christ**).
3. Do we begin our relationship with God by being Jewish or by loving and trusting Jesus? (**By loving and trusting Jesus**).
4. What would be a good definition of faith? (**Faith is lovingly trusting in Jesus instead of ourselves.**)

 Let's go deeper

5. According to v.27; how does Paul identify the Christians? (**Those who have been baptized as demonstration that they love Jesus**).
6. According to Romans 6:4, what is believer's baptism? (**Baptism demonstrates that we are in Christ, dead, buried, risen in newness of life, and as the water cleanses us, so Jesus cleanses us from our sins**).
7. What is the main message of v.28? (**That we are one in Christ Jesus**).
8. What does sin do? (**Sin separates us from God, and like it did with Adam and Eve it separates us from each other – see Is.59:2**).

 Let's apply this

9. What Jesus has enabled is community:

Loving relationships with people who are totally different than me, that I don't normally share things in common with. So, you can be young or older; male or female; rich or poor; educated or uneducated, and they can be friends because they're one in Christ. And what breaks down our society is we break into clicks, which is I get together with people like me, my race, my gender, my interests, whatever it is. I get together with like-minded people and we form clicks.

- **Are you comfortable with people different than you?**
- **Have you formed any clicks with like-minded people?**

SUMMARY:

- **The book of Galatians – No Other Gospel**

Read: Galatians 3:15 – 29

v.15 – 16; Abraham started as just an ordinary pagan or unbelieving Gentile from a family that did not know the God of the Bible. Abraham was not looking for God. He was just an ordinary guy, with a normal job, living a normal life. One day for reasons unknown, God showed up to reveal Himself to Abraham and invite him to a loving relationship. Abraham deserved nothing and did nothing. By grace, God extended Himself and all that Abraham did was to take God at His word and trust Him by faith

v.17 – 19; The law of God could not empower a life of obedience or save us. But the law does accomplish four things that encourage us toward the grace of God offered freely in Jesus Christ. **The law reveals God's perfect holiness. The law reveals our sinfulness. The law reveals God's patience. The law helped keep God's people distinct from other nations and their religions so that Jesus could come through the family line of Abraham.** The law reveals who God is, who we are, the size of the problem we have, and our desperate need for Jesus to be our perfection and righteousness since He alone is without sin and has fulfilled the law of God in total.

v.20 – 22; When it comes to the Kingdom of God, you can do one of two things: **One**, you can try and figure out everything that God has available to you and try and figure out how to make each one happens for example; forgiveness of sin, adoption into God's family, lifted burden, assurance of eternal life and other blessings. Or number **two**, you can believe in Jesus Christ. Faith in Jesus is the master key to the Kingdom of God. Faith in Jesus unlocks all of God's promises and blessings. All you need is Jesus and He is the key to everything.

v.23 – 26; In the ancient world, a guardian was appointed to look after a small child and help them grow into adulthood. The goal of the guardian was to help prepare the child to live as an independent adult who could make their own decisions and take responsibility for their own life. The guardian would impose a lot of rules and demands upon the child when they were little. As the child got older and mature, they were given increased freedom until the guardian was no longer needed.

v.26 – 29; What Jesus has enabled is community, which is loving relationship with people who are totally different than us, that we don't share things in common with because Jesus has loved them and they loved Him back. And we've loved Jesus and He's loved us first. And together we're unified because we're both loved by God and we love Him back. That's what Paul is talking about. Sinners, are not unified. Sin separates us from God and like it did with Adam and Eve it separates us from each other. We're not one. Now, Jesus forgives us and our sin is taken away. We're one. We're reconciled. God reconciles us not just to Christ, but also to each other.