

# FREEDOM FIGHTER

The letter to the Galatians



## HOW TO USE THIS BOOK:

### 1. PERSONAL READING

- Use this guide to help you read your Bible and pray every day.
- Use the prayer point suggestions below to guide your prayers as well as writing down people you are seeking to reach.

### 2. GOSPEL COMMUNITY

- Take this to **GC** each week so you can follow along with the Bible Study.
- Use the **Whole Family Learning** ideas on pages 55-56.

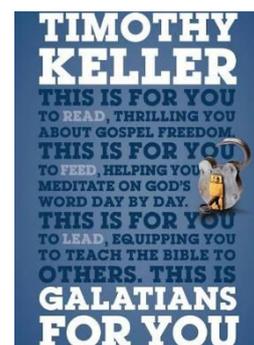
## PRAYER POINTS

- We want to encourage you to be on mission to your non-Christian friends, family and contacts. Who are you on mission to? Make a list and pray for them regularly.

## SUGGESTED READING:

If you would like to engage more with Galatians:

- 'Galatians for You' by Timothy Keller
- 'Rediscovering Joy' by Tim Chester



## FREEDOM FIGHTER – GALATIANS

WEEK	PASSAGE	THEME
1	Galatians 1:1-9	The Uniqueness of the Gospel
2	Galatians 1:10-24	God's Amazing Grace
3	Galatians 2:1-10	Gospel Unity
4	Galatians 2:11-21	Living in Line with the Gospel
5	Galatians 3:1-14	Never Leave the Gospel
6	Galatians 3:15-25	The Law and the Gospel Life
7	Galatians 3:26-4:7	Children of God
8	Galatians 4:8-20	Two Religions, Two Ministries
9	Galatians 4:21-31	Grace to the Barren
10	Galatians 5:1-15	Gospel Freedom
11	Galatians 5:16-25	Gospel Character
12	Galatians 5:26-6:5	Gospel Relationships
13	Galatians 6:6-18	Sowing and Reaping

### INTRODUCTION: GALATIANS

#### A GENERAL OVERVIEW OF GALATIANS

**The Author:** Galatians was written by the apostle Paul

**When was it written and who for:** Galatians is a letter that was written around AD 50 for the Christian churches in the area of Galatia in Asia Minor. These were both Jewish and Gentile Christians.

**Themes and Purpose:** The letter of Galatians is all about the gospel of Jesus; what the gospel is and how the gospel works itself out in the everyday life of Christians. The churches in Galatia were being influenced by false teaching, so Paul reminds them of the truths of the Gospel. Thus, the purpose of this letter is to show the reader the truths of the gospel and how they change everything about our lives and how we live.

The main themes of the letter are:

- Justification is by faith alone, not by works. This truth affects how we relate to all people, including other Christians.
- Christians are sanctified by their faith in Christ, through the work of the Holy Spirit.

## WEEK 1: GALATIANS 1:1-9

## THE UNIQUENESS OF THE GOSPEL

### PERSONAL BIBLE READING GUIDE

#### MONDAY

Read ALL of Galatians!

1. What do you think is the overall message of Galatians?
2. What is one thing that you have learnt from what you read today?
3. What is one question that you have from what you read today?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### TUESDAY

Read Galatians 1:1-3

1. How does Paul describe his role to the church in this letter?
2. How does Paul describe the gospel in this passage? And what response should that elicit in us?
3. Is this the response that you have? Why or why not?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### WEDNESDAY

Read Acts 14

1. What did Paul and Barnabas do when they visited the churches in Galatia?
2. What was the result of this?
3. How do they strengthen the church there?
4. In what ways have you suffered for the sake of the gospel in your life? What hope do you find in this passage?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### THURSDAY

Read Galatians 1:6-9

1. What has the church in Galatia done?
2. What is the significance of this?
3. Have you ever been tempted to desert the gospel? What caused you to feel this way?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### FRIDAY

Read Acts 15:1-35

1. How were the Jewish Christians adding to the gospel?
2. What was Paul's response to them?
3. In what ways have you 'added to the gospel' in your life?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

If you missed any studies throughout the week, you could do them on these days.

## WEEK 1 GC STUDY: GALATIANS 1:1-9

What are some things that make you frustrated and angry? Why they make you feel this way?

### READ GALATIANS 1:1-9

How does Paul describe himself to the recipients of this letter?

How does Paul summarise the gospel in this passage (see verse 3-4)? How is God's grace emphasised in this explanation?

How would you describe Paul's tone in this part of the letter? Why do you think he writes this way?

What is the reason for Paul's rebuke of the churches in Galatia?

What is the result of losing the gospel?

How does Paul describe these false teachers?

What is something that strikes you from Paul's gospel explanation in verse 3-5?

Do you feel as passionate about the gospel as Paul? Are you angry when it is mistreated or misused? Why or why not?

What does this passage teach you about the importance and truth of the gospel and in turn, the words that have been written in the Bible?

Considering this, what do you think a life would look like that held firmly to the gospel truths?

GC PRAYER POINTS

## WEEK 2: GALATIANS 1:10-24

## GOD'S AMAZING GRACE

### PERSONAL BIBLE READING GUIDE

#### MONDAY

Read Galatians 1:10

1. What happens if people try and please men?
2. What do you think is Paul's reason for asking these questions? (see 1:6-9)
3. Where else in the Bible do we see people caring more about pleasing people (see John 12:42-43)? What does this show you about the seriousness of this?
4. In what ways are you a 'people pleaser' in your life? What can you do to try and please God instead?

#### TUESDAY

Read Romans 12:1-2

1. What does it mean to live lives pleasing to God according to this chapter?
2. How is this different to a life lived trying to please people?
3. What do you think it means to offer your body as a living sacrifice in your everyday life?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### WEDNESDAY

Read Galatians 1:11-24

1. How did Paul become an Apostle?
2. What role did Paul play in this?
3. When you look back on your conversion story how do you see God's grace at work?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### THURSDAY

Read Acts 9:1-31

1. What was Paul like prior to his conversion?
2. How does Paul's conversion come about?
3. What do you learn about Paul in this passage?
4. What does this teach you about the way that God works in this world?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### FRIDAY

Read Philippians 3:1-10

1. What light does this passage shed on the life of Paul and his conversion?
2. In what ways are you tempted to put confidence in 'the flesh' in your life?
3. Where is it that we should be looking for our confidence?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

If you missed any studies throughout the week, you can do them on these days.

## WEEK 2 GC STUDY: GALATIANS 1:10-24

Take some time to share with each other how you became a Christian.

### READ GALATIANS 1:10-24

How does Paul explain his testimony to them?

What is the reason he gives for telling them about this?

What does Paul's conversion and testimony show about the power of the gospel?

In what ways does Paul show that the gospel he brought to them is the true gospel?

How is God seen to be at work in Paul's conversion and life?

What does the conversion of Paul teach us about how God saves people?

How did you see God working in your life before your conversion to equip you to serving him after?

Are you ever tempted to think that you deserve salvation and God's grace? What is it that prompts you to think this way?

How does the gospel of grace free us from pride and from guilt?

GC PRAYER POINTS

## WEEK 3: GALATIANS 2:1-10

## GOSPEL UNITY

### PERSONAL BIBLE READING GUIDE

#### MONDAY

Read Galatians 2:1-5

1. Where did Paul go and why?
2. What do you think it means to have freedom in Christ?
3. Do you feel guilty or insecure in your relationship with God? What does this tell you about how you view your acceptance with him?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### TUESDAY

Read Galatians 2:6-10

1. What was Paul's role as an apostle? Why was he given this role?
2. What does this show you about the gospel message?
3. How can we make sure that the true gospel is always preached at Summerleas?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### WEDNESDAY

Read Acts 15:1-21 and Galatians 2:1-10

1. What false teaching was threatening the church?
2. How does Peter refute this false teaching?
3. How does this help you understand Galatians 2:1-10?
4. In what ways are you tempted to add to the gospel today?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### THURSDAY

Read Hebrews 9:11-28

1. What did Christ achieve for us? How did he do this?
2. What has Christ done to the old covenant and to 'works based' salvation?
3. Summarise the gospel in your own words.
4. Think and pray about someone who you might be able to share this with this week.

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### FRIDAY

Read Luke 6:27-36 and Galatians 2:10

1. What is Jesus' view of the poor and how Christians are to view them?
2. What light does this shed on Galatians 2:10?
3. How are you going with caring for the poor? How have these verses challenged and/or encouraged you?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

If you missed any studies throughout the week, you can do them on these days.

## WEEK 3 GC STUDY: GALATIANS 2:1-10

What are some “nice” and “proper” attitudes or actions that the culture around us and your upbringing has taught you? Can you think of a time when these beliefs were added onto the gospel and thought of as an expectation for all Christians?

### READ GALATIANS 2:1-20

Why had Paul returned to Jerusalem and for what purpose?

What do you think it means for Paul to be “running the race in vain” (verse 2)?

What was the early church in Jerusalem in danger of? What is the significance of this?

What do you think Paul means by ‘the freedom we have in Christ’ (verse 4)? How can this affect the unity of the Christians?

How might we be tempted to add to and/or change the gospel today? How can this affect the unity of Christians?

Have there been times in your life when you have begun to think that your performance counts toward your salvation? What caused you to think this way?

How can we ourselves 'bring us into slavery'? And how can we bring others into slavery?

What are some things that you can do in your life to guard against this?

GC PRAYER POINTS

## WEEK 4: GALATIANS 2:11-21

## LIVING IN LINE WITH THE GOSPEL

### PERSONAL BIBLE READING GUIDE

#### MONDAY

Read Galatians 2:11-14

1. Why did Paul rebuke Cephas?
2. What does this show you about how Cephas understood the gospel?
3. In what ways do you see hypocritical behaviour in your life?
4. How can you guard against this?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### TUESDAY

Read Acts 10

1. Why did Peter have doubts about eating certain foods?
2. What is the result of Jesus' words and Peter's vision?
3. What is the significance of this event on the church?
4. In what ways may the thinking 'the gospel isn't for some kinds people' creep into your life?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### WEDNESDAY

Read Galatians 2:15-21

1. What do you think it means to be justified by faith in Christ?
2. In what ways can you be tempted to get right with God through rules, law-keeping or good works?
3. How can you 'preach Christ' to yourself daily so as to guard against this temptation?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### THURSDAY

Read 2 Corinthians 5:11-21 and Galatians 2:11-21

1. What does Paul say Christ has done for all people?
2. How does one change when they accept Christ?
3. What light does this shed on Paul's teaching in Galatians chapter 2?
4. In what ways are you still living your old life? How can you live more for Christ this week?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### FRIDAY

Read Romans 3:9-30 and Galatians 2:11-21

1. Who is under sin and what hope is there for those who try to work for righteousness?
2. How then can one be saved?
3. What light does this shed on Paul's teaching in Galatians chapter 2 and what it means to live for Christ?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

If you missed any studies throughout the week, you can do them on these days.

## WEEK 4 GC STUDY: GALATIANS 2:11-21

How do you think most people believe they can be made right with God and be accepted by him?

### READ GALATIANS 2:11-21

What does Paul rebuke Peter of? What caused Peter to act in this way and what does it show about his attitude?

Why can someone not be justified by the law?

What does it mean to be justified in Christ?

How does this affect and change the day to day life of someone who believes and accepts this?

In what ways today can we let cultural differences affect how we relate to people:

- In the church
- Outside the church

What is the effect on the gospel message if we do this?

How does the fact that our salvation is not based on our works make you feel? Why do you think you feel this way?

What would you say to someone who believes that being good makes them acceptable to God?

What does all this teach us about what it means to live by the gospel?

GC PRAYER POINTS

## WEEK 5: GALATIANS 3:1-14

## NEVER LEAVE THE GOSPEL

### PERSONAL BIBLE READING GUIDE

#### MONDAY

Read Galatians 3:1-5

1. How would you describe Paul's tone in this passage? Why do you think he is feeling like this?
2. What is Paul saying about the work of the Spirit in the lives of Christians?
3. How have you seen the work of the Holy Spirit in your life as you grow as a Christian?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### TUESDAY

Read John 3:1-15 and Galatians 3:1-5

1. What does Jesus mean when he says one is to be 'born again'?
2. What role does the Holy Spirit play in this?
3. How then does one receive this new life that Paul is also talking about?
4. What does this teach you about the relationship between the gospel and the Holy Spirit?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### WEDNESDAY

Read Galatians 3:6-9

1. What sort of man was Abraham and what did this mean for him?
2. What does it mean to 'have faith' like Abraham?
3. Considering this, how is one made right with God? How do you see this truth live out in your life?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### THURSDAY

Read Genesis 15:1-6 and Galatians 3:1-9

1. What promises does God make to Abraham?
2. How does Abraham respond to this?
3. What do you think it means for Abraham's faith to be counted as righteousness?
4. How does this further help you to understand Galatians 3:1-9?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### FRIDAY

Read Galatians 3:10-14

1. What is the result of trying to be saved by the law or our works?
2. What does it mean that Jesus became 'a curse for us' (verse 13)?
3. What blessing do Christians receive because of what Jesus did?
4. In what ways are you tempted to believe that you are saved by your works and how does this affect your life?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

If you missed any studies throughout the week, you can do them on these days.

## WEEK 5 GC STUDY: GALATIANS 3:1-14

Think of the growth that you have had in your Christian life. When has this been at 'its worst' and when has it been at 'it's best'?

### READ GALATIANS 3:1-14

What are the churches in Galatia trying to add to the gospel message they heard? What does Paul think of them because of this?

What do you think 'the goal' is that Paul mentions in verse 3? What is wrong with how they are trying to reach this goal? Where should they have been looking to instead?

When does one receive the Holy Spirit and what role does the Spirit have in a Christian's life? Considering this, how is the work of the Holy Spirit linked with the gospel?

What does the example of Abraham add to Paul's argument in this passage?

How does the work of Christ change all of this for people?

Are you in danger of forgetting that the gospel is the source of your ongoing acceptance? How, and why?

How are you tempted to rely on your human effort to grow as a Christian?

How does going back to the gospel when we sin change the outcomes and our ongoing Christian walk?

What difference does having righteousness credited to us make on the way we see:

- Ourselves?
- Our Christian lives?
- Jesus?

GC PRAYER POINTS

## WEEK 6: GALATIANS 3:15-25      THE LAW AND THE GOSPEL LIFE

### PERSONAL BIBLE READING GUIDE

#### MONDAY

Read Galatians 3:15-18

1. What is the relationship between the law and God's covenant with his people?
2. What were the Galatians at risk of believing?
3. In what ways does the thinking of 'God will bless me only if I obey' play out in your life?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### TUESDAY

Read Galatians 3:19-22

1. What does Paul say is the purpose of the law?
2. Is this how you have thought of the law before? Why or why not?
3. How does seeing God's law like this affect how you view Christ's work on the cross?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### WEDNESDAY

Read Galatians 3:23-25

1. How is the law both a guard and a guiding force for people?
2. What has happened now that faith in Jesus has come?
3. In what ways are you still living 'under the supervision of the law'? How does this affect your life?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### THURSDAY

Read Romans 7:1-25 and Galatians 3:23-25

1. What does Paul teach here about what it means when you become a Christian?
2. How does this teaching add to what Paul is teaching in Galatians 3?
3. What sin are you currently struggling with? Spend some time repenting to God and asking for the Holy Spirit's help in this area.

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### FRIDAY

Read Matthew 5:17-20 and Galatians 3:15-25

1. What has Jesus done with the law? How is this possible? And what does it mean?
2. Where does the type of righteousness that Jesus describes in verse 20 come from?
3. How is Jesus' teaching about the law the same or different to that of Paul's in Galatians?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

If you missed any studies throughout the week, you can do them on these days.



How do you become aware of the sin in your life? Is this something that you regularly reflect on and pray about? Why or why not?

How does knowing God's law affect your view of Christ and what he has done for you?

Considering this, what do you think is to be our motivation for getting rid of the sin in our lives?

Why do you obey the law? Do you ever obey it for the wrong reasons? If so, what are these?

How is what we have learnt from this passage liberating and freeing for us? How can we ensure that we remember this as we continue our daily struggle with the sin in our lives?

GC PRAYER POINTS

## WEEK 7: GALATIANS 3:26-4:7

## CHILDREN OF GOD

### PERSONAL BIBLE READING GUIDE

#### MONDAY

Read Galatians 3:26-27

1. What happens to someone when they have faith in Jesus?
2. What do you think it means to 'have clothed yourself with Christ'?
3. Is this how you would describe yourself? Why or why not?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### TUESDAY

Read Ephesians 4:17-5:1 and Galatians 3:26-27

1. What are the differences between the 'old self' and the 'new self'?
2. How does this passage further your understanding of what it means to be 'clothed in Christ'?
3. How are you going with putting on your 'new self'? What is one thing that you can work on this week?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### WEDNESDAY

Read Galatians 3:28-29

1. How are Gods children described in these verses?
2. What different barriers to unity does Paul lay out here?
3. What barriers prevent you from thinking of everyone as equal? How can this thinking affect the way you live?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

## THURSDAY

Read Galatians 4:1-7

1. How does Paul describe someone before they are a child of God?
2. What happens when someone becomes a child of God?
3. How do you feel about being a child/heir of God? What difference does this truth make to the way you live?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

## FRIDAY

Read Romans 8:12-17 and Galatians 4:1-7

1. How is a spirit led life described by Paul in this passage?
2. How does this help you further understand the concept of adoption from Galatians 4:1-7?
3. How does God's adoption of you change the way you view:
  - a. God
  - b. Yourself
  - c. Others

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

## SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

If you missed any studies throughout the week, you can do them on these days.

## WEEK 7 GC STUDY: GALATIANS 3:26-4:7

When you think of your identity, what is it that informs who you are and why you do what you do?

### READ GALATIANS 3:26-4:7

How are the churches in Galatia described in this passage? How is this made possible?

How does Paul describe the difference between a slave and a son?

What are the privileges of being one of God's sons?

When does Paul say people are most in danger of living as a slave, not as a son?

What role does the Holy Spirit have in all of this?

Do you find your identity in Christ? Why or why not? What difference would it make in your life if you fully grasped this truth?

What effect does being God's heirs have on the church and how we treat each other? Where might Summerleas Church be in danger of disunity?

When are you most in danger of living as a slave, not a son?

What has most excited you about this section of Galatians?

GC PRAYER POINTS

## **WEEK 8: GALATIANS 4:8-20      TWO RELIGIONS, TWO MINISTRIES**

### PERSONAL BIBLE READING GUIDE

#### MONDAY

Read Galatians 4:8-11

1. What does Paul accuse the people of doing?
2. What does Paul think about this?
3. How are you in danger of turning back to the way you were before being 'known by God'?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### TUESDAY

Read Colossians 3:1-17

1. What does Paul exhort the people to do and what reason does he give for this?
2. Which of the things that Paul lists under the 'new self' do you find particularly difficult?
3. What is one thing that you can do this week to help grow in this area?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### WEDNESDAY

Read Galatians 4:12-20

1. How does Paul describe his relationship with the churches in Galatia?
2. What are the false teachers doing and what is their reason for this?
3. What does this passage teach you about Christian ministry?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### THURSDAY

Read 2 Corinthians 12:7-10 and Galatians 4:12-20

1. What is the reason that Paul gives for the 'thorn in his flesh'?
2. How can one be weak and strong at the same time?
3. What light does this further shed on the way that Paul goes about his ministry?
4. How do you view the weaknesses in your life?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### FRIDAY

Read 2 Timothy 4:1-8 and Galatians 4:12-20

1. What warning does Paul give to Timothy in this passage?
2. What does Paul command Timothy to keep doing to combat this?
3. What are your views on what Christian ministry is like? Is it similar or different to how Paul describes it in Galatians 4 and 2 Timothy?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

If you missed any studies throughout the week, you can do them on these days.

## WEEK 8 GC STUDY: GALATIANS 4:8-20

What different idols do you see the world around you worshipping? What do you think is the reason behind this idolatry?

### READ GALATIANS 4:8-20

What does Paul accuse the people of doing? What reason does he give for why this is so bad?

What does this show about the churches in Galatia and how they were trying to make themselves right with God?

How would you describe Paul's tone and relationship with the churches in Galatia?

What is the reason Paul gives for what the false teachers are doing?

How does Paul describe his ministry to the churches in Galatia in contrast to these false teachers?

What idols exist in your life? How do these idols enslave you?

How does remembering that God knows you, free you from the temptation to worship those idols?

How does this passage further your understanding of what it means to be in gospel ministry?

We can all be gospel ministers to fellow Christians. How might your ministry need to change based on what you have learnt in this study?

GC PRAYER POINTS

## WEEK 9: GALATIANS 4:21-31

## GRACE TO THE BARREN

### PERSONAL BIBLE READING GUIDE

#### MONDAY

Read Genesis 16 and 17:15-21

1. What problem was Sarai faced with and how did she try and solve it?
2. What was the result of her and Abraham's actions?
3. What do we learn about God's promises and his sovereignty from what happens to Sarai and Hagar?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### TUESDAY

Read Galatians 4:21-25

1. What does Paul accuse the churches in Galatia of being like in verse 21?
2. What do you think is the point of the reference to Sarai and Hagar?
3. When have you seen God do something impossible in your life, or in the lives of those around you?
4. What does this teach you about God and how he chooses to work in our lives?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### WEDNESDAY

Read Galatians 4:26-31

1. Who does Paul say the churches in Galatia are like?
2. What do you think it means to be 'children of the free woman'?
3. Do you expect persecution in your life? Why or why not?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### THURSDAY

Read Romans 9:1-13 and Galatians 4:21-31

1. What is the cause of Paul's anguish in his letter to the Romans?
2. How does this passage help you understand what it means to be children of the promise?
3. Do you think of yourself as a child of God? Why or why not?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### FRIDAY

Read Luke 15:1-32

1. Describe the different ways that these two brothers chose to live.
2. What does this parable of Jesus teach you about God's grace?
3. How do the truths of God's grace affect your day to day life?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

If you missed any studies throughout the week, you can do them on these days.

## WEEK 9 GC STUDY: GALATIANS 4:21-31

Think back over the story of Abraham, Sarah and Hagar from Genesis 16 & 17. Summarise what happens.

### READ GALATIANS 4:21-31

What do the two sons of Abraham represent?

What is the purpose of Paul's example of Abraham and his two sons? What is he reminding the Churches in Galatia of?

Paul describes the people as 'barren women' in verse 27. What does this have to do with his argument about salvation not being by works?

What do you think it means to be 'children of the free woman' (verse 26 and 31)?

What does Paul say the churches in Galatia are? What does this mean they should expect?

Abraham decided to rely on himself and make God's promises come about. Have you ever done something similar? What were the results?

What does the story of Abraham, Sarah and Hagar teach you about God's grace?

In what ways are God's children persecuted today? What hope does this passage offer?

Do you consider the Christian life to be one of freedom? Why or why not?

GC PRAYER POINTS

## WEEK 10: GALATIANS 5:1-15

## GOSPEL FREEDOM

### PERSONAL BIBLE READING GUIDE

#### MONDAY

Read Galatians 5:1

1. What does Paul say people are in Christ?
2. What do you think it means to be 'burdened by the yoke of slavery'?
3. Do you consider a Christian life to be one of freedom? Why or why not?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### TUESDAY

Read Galatians 5:2-6

1. What does Paul say will happen if the churches in Galatia say one has to be circumcised to be saved?
2. What should they actually be working on?
3. How can you be tempted to 'fall away from grace'? How can you strengthen your faith to avoid this?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### WEDNESDAY

Read Galatians 5:7- 12

1. What does Paul say about the people who are teaching the wrong things to these churches?
2. Can you think of examples of false teachers and teaching in Christian churches today?
3. How can you make sure that you are not persuaded by false teaching today?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### THURSDAY

Read Galatians 5:13-15

1. What are Christians called to?
2. What do you think it means to have Christian freedom?
3. How are you expressing your freedom in Christ?
4. How are you going at showing love to your neighbours?

#### FRIDAY

Read Romans 6:1-14 and Galatians 5:1-15

1. How does Paul describe what happens when you accept Christ?
2. How does this help you further understand his teaching in Galatians 5:1-15?
3. Choose a sin that you are struggling with. Why do you want to sin in this way? How does your gospel freedom undermine that motivation to sin?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

If you missed any studies throughout the week, you can do them on these days.

## WEEK 10 GC STUDY: GALATIANS 5:1-15

When you think of the Christian life do you think of it as one with freedom? Or would you describe it more like slavery? Why do you think this is?

### READ GALATIANS 5:1-15

What has Christ done? Why do you think it is necessary for Paul to command them to stand firm in this?

What are Christians free from?

What does Paul say is to be the reason behind why Christians do what they do?

What was this false teaching putting the churches of Galatia in danger of? Do you think Paul's tone is therefore justified or too harsh?

How does Paul exhort the churches in Galatia to use their freedom?

Have you ever come close to losing (or actually lost) your gospel freedom? How did this happen? What lessons can you draw from it?

How much difference does your certain hope make to your life now?

How do the gospel truths take away one's desire to sin and instead motivate you towards obeying God?

What is your motivation for fleeing from sin and 'doing good'? Is it from guilt or because of the freedom you have in Christ?

GC PRAYER POINTS

## WEEK 11: GALATIANS 5:16-25

## GOSPEL CHARACTER

### PERSONAL BIBLE READING GUIDE

#### MONDAY

Read Galatians 5:16-18

1. How does Paul tell the churches in Galatia to live? Why?
2. What will this result in?
3. Would you describe your life as one lived by the Spirit? Why or why not?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### TUESDAY

Read Galatians 5:19-21

1. How does Paul describe the sinful nature?
2. What is the result of living like this?
3. Which of these things do you struggle with the most? Why do you think this is?
4. What is one thing you can do this week to help your struggle with this?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### WEDNESDAY

Read Galatians 5:22-25

1. How does Paul describe a life lived by the Spirit?
2. Which of these things do you find most difficult?
3. What is one thing you can do this week to grow in this area?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### THURSDAY

Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-3 and Galatians 5:13-14 & 22

1. How does Paul describe love in this passage? What importance is given to love?
2. How does this add to Paul's command to love one another in Galatians chapter 5?
3. How are you going at loving others? What is one thing that you can do this week to show love to those around you?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### FRIDAY

Read Galatians 5:1-25

1. How would you sum up Paul's argument here in your own words?
2. What is one thing that has struck you most from this passage?
3. Considering your answer to the above question, are there any changes you need to make in your life?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

If you missed any studies throughout the week, you can do them on these days.

## WEEK 11 GC STUDY: GALATIANS 5:16-25

What do you think is the motivation behind why people do what they do?

### READ GALATIANS 5:16-25

What two natures are at work in every Christian?

What does Paul say sinful desires do to a person?

How does Paul exhort the churches in Galatia to live? Why?

How does Paul describe what the Holy Spirit does in one's life? What is the result of the Holy Spirit working in someone?

What does Paul say is the reason behind this spirit filled living?

How have you experienced sin driving and controlling you lately? Or in what ways have you seen sin creating in you a feeling that you must have something that you do not have?

How can you dismantle these sins (or idols) in your life and replace them instead with Christ?

Which of the works of the sinful nature do you see in your life? What can you do this week to help remove this from your life?

Which of the fruit of the Spirit do you see in your life? How can you continue to grow in these areas?

GC PRAYER POINTS

## WEEK 12: GALATIANS 5:26–6:5

## GOSPEL RELATIONSHIPS

### PERSONAL BIBLE READING GUIDE

#### MONDAY

Read Galatians 5:26

1. What does Paul warn the people against?
2. How would you describe 'conceited' in your own words? (If you're not sure, look it up in a dictionary)
3. How might you be in danger of becoming conceited? How can you guard yourself against this?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### TUESDAY

Read Romans 12:15 and Galatians 5:26

1. What commands does Paul give in these passages?
2. How does this help you understand what it means to be conceited?
3. If you have a self image based on the gospel, how does that change the way you see yourself and others?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### WEDNESDAY

Read Galatians 6:1-5

1. What commands does Paul give the people in these verses?
2. What do you think it means to carry your own load?
3. Which of the things that Paul lays out here do you most struggle with?
4. What can you do this week to help grow in this area?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### THURSDAY

Read Galatians 5:13-14 and Galatians 6:2

1. What do you think it means to 'carry each other's burdens'?
2. How do you think these verses relate to each other?
3. How does doing this fulfil Christ law?
4. Think of one person who you could help carry their burden this week and make a plan to do it!

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### FRIDAY

Read Galatians 5:26-6:5

1. How would you summarise Paul's teaching to the churches in Galatia here?
2. Would you say this has been your experience of Christian relationships? Why or why not do you think this is the case?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

If you missed any studies throughout the week, you can do them on these days.

## WEEK 12 GC STUDY: GALATIANS 5:26-6:5

Do you think your relationships with people have changed since becoming a Christian? If so, in what ways?

### READ GALATIANS 5:26-6:5

List the different commands that Paul gives to the churches in Galatia?

Which of these things affect one's relationships with others?

What does it mean to be conceited? How would this affect relationships within the church?

Tim Chester describes the difference between 'burden' and 'load' as this; burdens could be described as responsibilities (like caring for children) or problems in one's life. Whereas one's load is their weaknesses and gifts and their responsibility towards God. How does this help explain verses 2 and 5?

What do you think a church would look like if they did all the things in this passage well?

How have you seen calling people to repentance of sin done before? Was it helpful or unhelpful? How do you think Gospel Communities could do this well?

How do you think we at Summerleas can 'carry each other's burdens' in a helpful and sustainable way?

What opportunities has God given you to carry another's burdens? How can you continue in this?

GC PRAYER POINTS

## WEEK 13: GALATIANS 6:6-18

## SOWING AND REAPING

### PERSONAL BIBLE READING GUIDE

#### MONDAY

Read Galatians 6:6-8

1. What two types of people does Paul describe here?
2. What do you think it means to 'sow to please the Holy Spirit'?
3. Which of these categories do you think you are in? Why is this the case?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### TUESDAY

Read Galatians 6:9-10

1. What does Paul instruct the people to do?
2. Why are they to do this?
3. How have you seen yourself getting 'weary at doing good'? Why do you think this is?
4. How can you 'do good to all people' more in your life?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### WEDNESDAY

Read Galatians 6:11-18

1. What does Paul say is the motivation behind the false teachers and their teaching?
2. What does Paul say actually matters?
3. Do you consider yourself to be a new creation? Why or why not?
4. What difference does knowing and thinking this about yourself make to your day to day life?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### THURSDAY

Read Galatians 6:12-16 and Galatians 5:1-12

1. How does Galatians 6 expand on Paul's teaching in chapter 5?
2. What do you think it means to boast in the 'cross of Christ'?
3. What joy and confidence do you gain from the truths of Galatians 6:14?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### FRIDAY

Read the whole of Galatians!

1. As you have read through and studied the book of Galatians what is one thing that strikes you the most?
2. What have you been most challenged by as you have studied Galatians?
3. How can you keep growing in this area?

Pray (Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, Ask)

#### SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

If you missed any studies throughout the week, you can do them on these days.

## WEEK 13 GC STUDY: GALATIANS 6:6-18

When you think of the work of the Holy Spirit what comes to mind?

### READ GALATIANS 6:6-18

Describe the two different ways that Paul says people can live. What will be the result of living like this?

What does Paul exhort the Christians in Galatia to do?

What do the false teachers care most about?

What is it that Paul cares about and in fact even boasts in?

How would you describe your life? Are you sowing for destruction or to please the Spirit?

How can you keep working at reaping to please the Spirit in your specific set of God-given circumstances?

How can we at Summerleas Church do better at 'doing good to all people.'?

What do you think it means to be a new creation through the gospel (verse 15)?  
How does this affect our motivation for doing good?

GC PRAYER POINTS

## WHOLE FAMILY LEARNING (WFL) IDEAS FOR GALATIANS

1. **Read** 'The Fruit of the Spirit' (page 260) from 'The Gospel Story Bible' and ask the questions in the 'Lets Talk About it' section (page 261)

**Pray** together about what you have talked about.

2. Listen (and sing/dance!) to Colin Buchanan's song "I have been crucified with Christ" and read Galatians 2:20.

**Ask the following questions (depending on the age of your kids):**

- What do you think it means to be crucified with Christ?
- What life do we now live?

Then **pray** together about what you have talked about.

3. **Read** 'Adopted' from The-ology (page 160-163) and Galatians 3:23-26

**Ask the following questions (depending on the age of your kids):**

- To whom did God give the right to become children of God?
- What does it mean to be part of God's family?

Then **pray** together about what you have talked about.

4. Read 'The Holy Spirit helps us Fight Against Sin' (pages 175) from The-ology and Galatians 5:16-17

**Ask the following questions (depending on the age of your kids):**

- What battle are all Christians in?
- What can help us in this battle?

Then **pray** together about what you have talked about.

5. Read 'The Fruit of the Spirit' (page 176) from Theology and Galatians 5:22-24

**Ask the following questions (depending on the age of your kids):**

- What is the difference between the acts of the flesh and the acts of the Spirit?
- What does the Holy Spirit do in us?
- Have you noticed any good fruit lately in your life?

Then **pray** together about what you have talked about.

6. Have a look at the Galatians videos at the Bible project:  
<https://bibleproject.com/explore/galatians/>

You could **watch** these video's and **ask** what they learnt about the book of Galatians or found helpful and discussion can go from there.

**Pray** about what you have learnt.

## SUMMERLEAS CHRISTIAN CHURCH MISSION PARTNERS

FELLOWSHIP OF OVERSEAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS (FOCUS)

FOCUS is a Christian international student society that seeks to share the good news of Jesus with International students at the University of Hobart.



How Summerleas can help:

- Go along to Friday Night FOCUS and/or cook for them.

What: FREE food, fun, friendship and teaching from the Bible.

When: Fridays 6.00-8.30pm (if your GC is bringing food please bring it at 5:30pm)

Where: Sandy Bay Baptist Church, 239 Sandy Bay Road

- Pray:
  - Praise God for this wonderful opportunity to reach the nations.
  - Pray that we will be keen to support this strategic ministry and that it would grow us in our passion for God's great mission!
  - Pray for Luke and the leadership team that they will speak the truth in love.
  - Pray that God will be working in the hearts of those who come along to hear and understand that Jesus is their Lord and Saviour