

Leaders: Have you made a summer schedule yet? A great goal would be 2 regular meetings each month June – August (more is of course fine if you can and want), and a couple of informal times getting together for building community.

### **LEARN**

Read Galatians 3:1-5 together. What stood out to you from the text or sermon that was helpful, challenging, or convicting?

What was the church in Galatia doing that Paul was so upset about? In your own words, why was it such a big deal?

(They'd been tricked/bewitched to think they needed the law to be a "real" Christian. They were seeking to earn what is only grace. They weren't following Christ by the power of the Spirit but their fleshly effort.)

What are the differences between a Christian who is trying to mature in the faith through reliance on the Holy Spirit and one who is trying to mature through the flesh?

(Examples: Reliance on Spirit increases joy in worship, authenticity and perseverance in prayer, obedience coming from the heart. Working through flesh will lack the joy, the grace-filled wonder of the gospel, thanksgiving will be infrequent and dry, and lacks power only Spirit provides as He is relied upon.)

### **PRACTICE**

In what ways do you resonate with the issue the Galatian Christians had? What is an example of a time you have relied on your own work instead of the Holy Spirit to grow in Christlikeness?

How have you experienced the power of the cross of Christ in an ongoing way as a Christian? Spend time encouraging each other as a group with how the work of Christ is enough.

(Leaders: Consider giving the group 1-2 minutes in silence to reflect on how the work of Christ is enough, then through short testimonies of praise share encouragement together.)

What are examples of "gospel supplements" Christians can get bewitched by, thinking they are necessary to being a real/true Christian? Have you struggled with any personally?

(Examples: Thinking baptism saves them, communion, infant baptism, consistent Bible reading = better Christian automatically, church attendance, church leadership, missions trips)

### **CHANGE**

How do you personally rely on the ongoing work of the Holy Spirit to grow as a disciple of Jesus? Are there areas you are trying to go it alone, in your flesh?

(Leaders: Spend time praying together for ongoing faith that the Spirit is working in your life to grow you in Christ, and for conviction of where you are sinfully trying to do it in your own strength)