



## Fighting Words

RELATE

What questions did the opening sermon on the letter to the Galatians raise for you?

Have you ever been “called on the carpet” about a decision or behavior by someone in authority? How did they get your attention?

When did Christ first become real to you, more than just a name or an idea?

READ & REFLECT

**Galatians 1:1-24** | **1 Corinthians 15:1-4** | **Acts 9:1-31**

Describe Paul’s tone in this letter. What is he concerned about? Why does he take such pains to explain how he became an apostle without the involvement of the other apostles? How is this personal for Paul?

Why is the “new” gospel the Galatians are embracing *not* good news (v.7)? What is the simple gospel (1 Corinthians 15:1-4)? How does Paul’s life story showcase the amazing grace of the gospel? Why is it so crucial that the Galatians understand what’s at stake? How do we still fight this battle today?

What does Paul say should happen to people who preach a different gospel (v. 7-9)? How will you respond the next time you hear someone share a distorted version of the gospel?

What are some things other than Christ that Christians rely on to gain God’s approval? Why is it so hard for people to grasp the concept of grace? What helps you understand and live in grace?

What are some ways you see the gospel of Jesus Christ being influenced negatively by our culture? How do we guard against this negative cultural dilution without losing our ability to speak in a way that is understood and impactful to our culture?

What do you think about Mike’s assertion that the biggest threat to the church comes from believers whose lives are not changed by the gospel? How does that undermine the witness of the church?

What does it take to grow radically obedient lives energized by the grace of God? How is that attractive?

RESPOND

**Act** Take time to recall how you were first struck by the “free” nature of the gospel, and understood that faith, not works, is the doorway to peace with God. Write in a journal or share it with a friend.

**Reflect** For I am not ashamed of the good news about Christ. It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes, Jews first and also Gentiles. Romans 1:16 (NLT)