

Galatians - The True Gospel

Message by Pastor Dallas, The Naz

Week 7 - November 2nd, 2025

[Link to Sunday Service](#)

Summary

This week, in Galatians 4, we focus on Paul's passionate plea to the Galatian churches who were turning away from the true gospel. Paul expresses frustration that these believers, who once knew God intimately, were returning to legalistic practices and principles of the world. The gospel needs no qualifiers - it's not a social gospel, prosperity gospel, or any other modified version, but simply the good news of Jesus Christ (Mark 1:1). There are parallels to modern Christianity conforming to worldly patterns and emphasizing that our relationship with God is based on His grace, not our religious performance or rule-following. Using the example of Jesus and Nicodemus, we see that being born again through the Holy Spirit is essential for entering God's kingdom. The core gospel message from 1 Corinthians 15 is that Christ died for our sins, was buried, and rose again, offering salvation to everyone who believes in Him.

Intro Prayer

Heavenly Father, as we gather together in your presence, we ask that You would open our hearts and minds to receive what You want to teach us through Your Word. Help us to set aside any distractions or preconceived notions, and make us receptive to the truth You want to reveal to each of us. We pray that Your Holy Spirit will guide our discussion and help us to encourage one another as we grow in our understanding of Your grace and love. May we be humble and teachable, ready to examine our own hearts and lives in light of Your truth. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Ice Breaker

What's one rule or tradition from your childhood that you thought was really important at the time, but now realize wasn't as significant as you once believed?

Key Verses

- Galatians 4:8-20
- Romans 12:2
- John 3:3, 16
- 1 Corinthians 15:3-4

Questions

1. Paul asks the Galatians why they want to return to 'weak and miserable principles.' What are some modern-day *principles* that Christians might be tempted to rely on instead of the grace of God? (Gal 4:8-9)
2. In Galatians 4:16, Paul asks if he has become their enemy by telling them the truth. Have you ever experienced a relationship change when you shared a difficult truth with someone? How did you handle it?
3. Pastor Dallas mentioned that truth shines light on the darkness of deceit. What areas of your life do you find it hardest to let God's truth illuminate? (John 3:19-21)
4. Paul describes his anguish as being like 'childbirth' until Christ is formed in the Galatians. What do you think it means for Christ to be 'formed' in us? (Gal 4:19)
5. Pastor Dallas spoke of how the Judaizers wanted to 'make much of' the Galatians for their own purposes. How can we discern when someone's spiritual influence in our lives is healthy versus manipulative? (Gal 2:14; Acts 15:8-9)
6. Reflecting on the story of Nicodemus, what does it mean to be 'born again' and how is this different from just following religious practices? (John 3:3, 16)

Life Application

This week, examine your own spiritual practices and motivations. Identify one area where you might be relying on *doing* rather than *being* in your relationship with your Heavenly Father. Instead of focusing on religious performance, spend time each day simply talking to God and listening for His voice, remembering that your relationship with Him is based on His grace, not your works.

Ending Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank you for reminding us that our salvation and relationship with You is based entirely on Your grace and not our works. Help us to resist the temptation to add requirements to the gospel message. Where we have fallen into legalism or performance-based Christianity, please restore us to the joy of your salvation. Give us courage to speak truth in love to others, even when it's difficult, and help us to receive correction with humble hearts. In Jesus' precious name we pray, Amen.