



UNLOCKED

WEEK 2

SCRIPTURE

GALATIANS 2 – Read the entire chapter.

GALATIANS 5:1 (NIV) It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

PHILIPPIANS 3:10 (NIV) I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,

2 PETER 3:15-17 (NIV) Bear in mind that our Lord's patience means salvation, just as our dear brother Paul also wrote you with the wisdom that God gave him. He writes the same way in all his letters, speaking in them of these matters. His letters contain some things that are hard to understand, which ignorant and unstable people distort, as they do the other Scriptures, to their own destruction. Therefore, dear friends, since you have been forewarned, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of the lawless and fall from your secure position.

ACTS 10:9-16 (NIV) About noon the following day as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the roof to pray. He became hungry and wanted something to eat, and while the meal was being prepared, he fell into a trance. He saw heaven opened and something like a large sheet being let down to earth by its four corners. It contained all kinds of four-footed animals, as well as reptiles and birds. Then a voice told him, "Get up, Peter. Kill and eat." "Surely not, Lord!" Peter replied. "I have never eaten anything impure or unclean." The voice spoke to him a second time, "Do not call anything impure that God has made clean." This happened three times, and immediately the sheet was taken back to heaven.

ROMANS 6:11-13 (NIV) In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of righteousness.

PHILIPPIANS 3:13-14 (NIV) Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION

1. Have you ever seen a brand-new Christian get derailed in their newfound faith due to the expectations placed on them by older, more seasoned Christians?
2. Opinions about precisely how a Christian should or shouldn't live have been around a long, long time. Have you ever experienced legalism, and if so, how did it affect your personal walk with God?
3. Read Galatians chapter two. You'll notice Paul chose to meet Peter face-to-face when conflict arose, rather than preaching publicly against Peter or talking behind his back. Why is this so important, and what can we learn from this?
4. "In essentials unity, in non-essentials liberty, in all things charity." Three thoughts to consider: What's the difference between essentials and non-essentials? Between unity and liberty? And why is charity – love – so important "in all things?"
5. What is legalism? Why is the question, "Can I do _____ and still be a Christian" such an unhealthy approach to following God?
6. The Apostle Paul said the more he tried to follow the law, the more he failed. Why is the law inadequate when it comes to helping us become more like Jesus?
7. Senior Pastor Steve Poe said that sometimes "living for Christ is no walk in the park." As you consider the challenges associated with being a Christian, what's been the hardest for you and where could you use some encouragement from your group?
8. Peter and Paul were each given specific groups of people to reach with the good news of the gospel. What person or group of people do you sense God has specifically called you to reach, and how's it going?
9. Dr. James Merritt said, "For the Christian, every day needs to start with a funeral – yours. You need to die to sin, to self, to safety and to anything that comes between you and the Lord Jesus Christ. In everyone's life there is a throne, and when self is on the throne, then Jesus is on the cross; but when Jesus is on the throne, self is on the cross." What is your perspective on this thought?

