

Paul Small Group Guide

Warm-up Question: (Choose one, make up your own, or skip this part all together, depending upon the nature of your group.)

1. What is one area of your life in which you have great confidence?
2. If given the choice, would you want to retire early or work as long as you can?

Read the following passage: Galatians 1:11-24.

Questions for Discussion (Choose several that are relevant for your group):

1. Why do you think Paul was so fierce in his efforts to destroy the church?
2. Some today think that “religious” people are prone to being angry, judgmental, or self-righteous. Do you observe this tendency among religious people? What about religion might make religious adherents susceptible to negative behaviors or attitudes?
3. After Paul encountered Jesus on the road to Damascus, his views toward the Law of Moses underwent a significant change (see, for example, Galatians 2:15-16, 19; 3:10-14; 6:13-15). Why do you think his perspective on the Law changed?
4. Read Galatians 5:22-26. Does Paul think that how we live is unimportant since we’re not under the Law of Moses?
5. Jews like Paul measured their status before God by how well they adhered to the Law of Moses. What standard are you prone to use in your own life to determine how you feel about yourself? If we embrace God’s grace and no longer live under the fear of not measuring up are we likely to become passive and unmotivated to do anything with our lives? What was the result in Paul’s life? What should motivate us in life?
6. Explain how we are justified by faith. (See Romans 3:21-26.)
7. Are you confident that you are right with God? Explain.

Pray