

What Draws Us Together

Christ Community Church

July 12th, 2009

“But even if we or an angel from heaven should proclaim to you a gospel contrary to what we proclaimed to you, let that one be accursed! As we have said before, so now I repeat, if anyone proclaims to you a gospel contrary to what you have received, let that one be accursed!” Gal. 1:8-9

Galatians: A Super Quick Summary

- ✓ Resist the forces (cultural and spiritual) to become divided along social lines.
- ✓ Resist the temptation to _____ elements of _____ to the message of the Cross.

Why Was Paul So Agitated?

Beware of “Attachments”

1. _____

“Listen! I, Paul, tell you this: If you are counting on circumcision to make you right with God, then Christ will be of no benefit to you. I’ll say it again. If you are trying to find favor with God by being circumcised, you must obey every regulation in the whole law of Moses. For if you are trying to make yourselves right with God by keeping the law, you have been cut off from Christ! You have fallen away from God’s grace. But we who live by the Spirit eagerly wait to receive by faith the righteousness God has promised to us. For when we place our faith in Christ Jesus, there is no benefit in being circumcised or being uncircumcised. What is important is faith expressing itself in love.” Gal. 5:2-6

2. _____

“When Peter came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he was clearly in the wrong. Before certain men came from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles. But when they arrived, he began to draw back and separate himself from the Gentiles because he was afraid...” Gal. 2:11-12

3. _____

“...how is it that you are turning back to those weak and miserable principles? Do you wish to be enslaved by them all over again? You are observing special days and months and seasons and years! I fear for you, that somehow I have wasted my efforts on you.” Gal. 4:9-11

GOOD NEWS / BAD NEWS

GOOD NEWS: We don't deal with those "attachments" any more.

BAD NEWS: We " _____ " the Cross with other things.

Let's Get Back to Basics

1. Guard the _____ of the _____

"As for me, may I never boast about anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. Because of that cross, my interest in this world has been crucified, and the world's interest in me has also died. It doesn't matter whether we have been circumcised or not. What counts is whether we have been transformed into a new creation." Gal. 6:14-15

2. Celebrate together when a _____

"Later I went to Syria and Cilicia. I was personally unknown to the churches of Judea that are in Christ. They only heard the report: 'The man who formerly persecuted us is now preaching the faith he once tried to destroy.' And they praised God because of me."

Gal. 1:21-24

3. _____ is our chief pursuit, both individually and as a community of believers.

"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!"

Gal. 2:20-21

Fill in the blank answers:

1. add
2. belief & practice
3. circumcision
4. food law
5. calendar observance
6. accessorize
7. simplicity
8. gospel
9. life gets changed
10. knowing Jesus