

DISCUSSION IDEAS
GALATIANS RECAP

Galatians 6

December 3rd, 2016

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The three major issues in Galatians are:

1. THE GOSPEL,
2. THE HOLY SPIRIT, and
3. THE CHURCH FAMILY.

♦ **DISCUSSION POINT ONE: THE GOSPEL:**

Note how the Apostle Paul gets right to the point in Gal. 1:6.

What does he mean by "a different Gospel"?

Look at Gal. 3:1-5. What was the issue here?

Look at how strong the wording is that Paul uses in Gal. 1:6-10. Why is this issue so important?

What IS the true Gospel? Look at 1 Cor. 15:1-8.

How do Christians even today tend to fall into the trap of adding some kinds of works as a requirement for salvation from sin (Justification: being made right with God)?

How might I even allow some of that thinking to invade my own attitude?

How can the idea of spiritual growth (Sanctification) become confused with salvation from sin?

Discuss the statement: "Grace is not opposed to effort, it is opposed to earning." (Dallas Willard)

♦ **DISCUSSION POINT TWO: THE HOLY SPIRIT:**

Who IS the Holy Spirit?

What do 1 Cor. 3:16 and Rom. 8:9-11 tell us about our relationship with God's Holy Spirit?

How does Gal. 5:16-26 apply to your life?

Who produced the "fruit" in each case?

♦ **DISCUSSION POINT THREE: THE CHURCH FAMILY:**

Remember that the Scriptures always refer to the Holy Spirit's indwelling as being in "you"-plural? That He does indwell each of us, individually, BUT all references to this in the Word are in the context of the whole Body of Christ.

Review Gal. 5:13-26. How does the presence of the Holy Spirit in each believer affect every other believer?

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How will being involved with other believers affect my personal spiritual life as well?

How will my being involved with other believers bring the reality of God's love to the world around me?

How can I really get involved with other folks in my church?

We have learned that each of us was given at least one spiritual gift upon trusting in Jesus. See 1 Peter 4:8-10.

Look at what Eph. 4:11-16 states as the purpose for these gifts.

If God gave me a special gift, am I just going to let it sit on the shelf and go to rot?

What damage would that do to my fellow believers?

♦ **THOUGHTS:**

Think about Eph. 2:8-10, especially v. 10. If God intends me to accomplish something, what does it mean if I do not want to obey Him?

Reflect on Luke 12:37. When Jesus said, "Truly I say to you, that He will gird himself to serve, and have them recline at the table, and will come up and wait on them", WHO is table-waiting at the banquet?

Who is being served?

What is this reward for?

What does that tell you about the kind of God we serve!?

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♦ **FOR PRAYER:**

Continue to uphold the Shelter Valley believers, and the GCC team that serves there. Pray for continued growth in understanding among those who attend about God's Plan and what it really means to follow Him.

Pray for the new home groups starting up soon, especially the leaders.

Let's continue to pray for the Lord's love and power to be seen in Baranganon Island.

Thank God for the encouragement for Benders and Ingvoidstads as the Cuyunan church grows. Ask God for protection from injuries and from sickness.

Pray for the men who are growing in Christ and taking on greater responsibilities on Baranganon Island.

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Praise and continued prayer: Continue to uphold the Tagbanwa believers who go to a neighboring island every Friday to teach about God. Pray too for the hearers to respond.

"Continue to pray for them as there continues to be a solid group listening and interacting with God's Word. We often get to go, and its exciting to see `the body' in action.

"Not only are there teachers, but others go to support and engage this new group who is hearing. If you can believe it, there are even some who catch fish for the families who go so they won't miss a meal!

"Continue to pray for strength and endurance for those who go, as well as understanding for those who hear."

Conrad Binder writes: "15 people decided to make a public statement of their 'oneness with Christ', by being baptized. Through baptism they expressed that they had died to their old ways, and that the new life they live, is because of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. We heard some very encouraging testimonies on what Jesus Christ did in their lives. Gary came to know Jesus Christ through the teaching in Balo-balo, he said "What kind of faith is that, if we don't have the courage to make it known publicly through baptism".

"The most exciting part of our ministry here, is seeing Jesus Christ become visible in their daily life in their decision-making, and in their testimonies."

Thank God and uphold in prayer the "TFG" (Time For God) group of children and young folks who meet every day!

Pray with the strong, self-motivated women's group as they study God's Word and grow to be mature believers.