

How to use This Guide:

Talking through the message during the week helps you and your group turn what God is saying to you into action steps. Begin with the key questions, add any optional scriptures and questions if needed, and then wrap up by deciding on your next steps.

Our Main Idea:

We are saved by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone! Our salvation is not based on our performance for God, but instead is based upon God's love for us.

Opening

How do you normally introduce yourself or others to someone new? Do you tend to introduce others by what they do? Does it seem like we are usually judged based on what we can do instead of who we are in our culture? How can we carry this expectation into our relationship with God?

Key Questions:

- Read 1 Thessalonians 2:4 and 1 Thessalonians 4:1. What do these verses indicate about a believer's desire to please God? Do these verses place more emphasis on people being pleasing to God or righteous actions being pleasing to God?
- Does God consider a person to have a higher intrinsic value based on the things that they do or don't do in order to please Him?
- If salvation comes from by grace through faith, why do we think that we have to "do something" to earn God's salvation and His pleasure?
- Invite a volunteer to read Galatians 2:1-10. Emphasize that Paul is again addressing the false teachings of the Judaizers. Was there anything inherently wrong with the Jewish customs and regulations that God had designed centuries before?
- Considering the message of Gospel, when did these regulations become legalism? What is the difference between legalism and obedience?
- Enlist a volunteer to read Galatians 2:15-21? How many time are the words "faith" and "justified" used?
- How can we distort the Gospel with our behavior? How do we sometimes act in ways that are contrary to the Gospel and Scripture?
- Why do we often give the excuse "I'm not supposed to judge" when we don't want to confront a behavior that is unbiblical?
- How should faith affect the way that our lives reflect Christ?
- Enlist a volunteer to read 2 Corinthians 5:21. How can a person be considered righteous without actually being righteous?
- **What was your biggest take-away from the weekend message?**

Next Steps

What did God say to you today through His Word? And what are you going to do about it! Finish your group time with prayer, asking God for help in living in Freedom

Experience

Your Relationship with God

Can we do anything to make Christ love us more or love us less? How does this truth affect the way that we view God? How does it affect the way that we view ourselves?

Equip

Your Relationship with Others

Do we truly believe Galatians 2:20? How would our lives look if we truly believed in this truth?

Engage

Your Relationship with the World

Why do we feel that we have a debt to repay to Christ? How is it freeing to know that we don't pay Him back but that He joys in living through us?