

## “Who Gets the Credit?”

Use this guide as a tool to help you prepare to experience spiritual transformation in a practical way. It is a **flexible guide** that will help you discover, own, and apply the truths of God’s Word.

### Message Summary

Galatians was written by the Apostle Paul to a group of churches in the southern region of Galatia; modern day Turkey. Shortly after he planted the churches in that region, false teachers came in and taught that a person must not only believe in Jesus but also convert to Judaism in order to have eternal life. In other words, these false teachers taught people their righteousness was based on their works rather than the righteousness of Jesus Christ alone. Paul wrote in order to correct this false teaching and help the churches live in the freedom they found in Jesus.

Paul wanted the churches to know that his Gospel was given to him directly through Jesus Christ. He didn’t preach a made-up gospel or a message that was handed down from other men. Paul’s message of hope came directly from Jesus. Paul defended his message so others would see that he didn’t preach a perverted Gospel, something different than was being preached by the Apostles. Rather, Paul was preaching the same message they proclaimed, however, it came to him completely independent of their preaching.

Through Paul’s defense we see that the Gospel Paul preached, the same one we preach today, ultimately is revealed by Jesus Christ through His Word. This Gospel transforms broken people who leave their personal pursuits in order to pursue the pursuits of the One who saved them. Further, when someone comes to faith in Jesus through this Gospel, God is glorified rather than that person.

All of this points us to the fact that when the Gospel of Jesus Christ is proclaimed, Jesus gets the glory. He alone deserves the credit for your transformed life. Not you. Not the preacher. Not the missionary. No one other than Jesus gets the credit for changed lives. As you prepare to meet with your Missional Community this week examine the questions on the next page and be prepared to answer them during the study. Also ask yourself the “Questions to Consider” in the sermon outline. All of these questions will help you discover who deserves and gets the credit for your changed life.

### Message Outline

The Gospel we preach...

1. Is Revealed by Jesus. (11-12)  
Not from man.  
But...  
From God’s Word.
2. Transforms Broken people. (13-20)  
We leave our former pursuits.  
We pursue His purposes.
  - We are set apart.
  - We are called.
  - Jesus is revealed.
  - We obey.
3. Glorifies God not Us. (21-24)  
We embrace obscurity.  
We exalt Jesus.

Questions to consider:

1. How has Jesus Revealed Himself to you through His Word?
2. How has your life changed since believing this Gospel?
3. Who receives glory for what has been accomplished in your life?

## “Who Gets the Credit?”

### Group Discussion

Use the following questions to help make application of God’s Word to your Head (What God wants me to know), to your Heart (What God wants me to desire/value), and to your Hands (What God wants me to do).

In regard to Galatians 1:11-24:

1. What does this passage teach about God? (God’s Identity; Theology)
2. What does this passage teach about what God has done? (God’s Action; Christology)
3. What does this passage teach about man/me? (Old & New Creation Identity; Ecclesiology)
4. What does this passage teach about what I should do? (Reveals what I really believe about Questions 1-3; Missional Ecclesiology)
5. What does this passage teach about how I do it uniquely in my context? (personal action steps of obedience)

### Weekly Prayer Focus

- **Church:**
  - Pray that all who have believed the Gospel will obey Jesus in believer’s baptism.
  - Pray for new relationships that will lead to Gospel conversations.
  - Pray for the elders as they lead us to accomplish the mission.
  - Pray for the Missional Communities to impact their communities with the Gospel.
  - Pray for Missional Communities to multiply into new neighborhoods.
  - Pray for new DNA groups to start.
- **Local:**
  - Pray that God would burden us with the lostness in our cities, neighborhoods, and at work.
  - Pray that God will identify 5 people you can begin to invest in and engage with the Gospel.
- **Global:**
  - Pray that God would give you a heart for the nations.
  - Pray for the team working in SEA, the new believers, for those who have heard the Gospel, and the church planting movement among the unreached.
  - Pray for Good Shepherd Ministries and Bill & Sandy Younger.
  - Pray for Servants Hearts Ministries and Bob & Georgette Kornegay.
  - Pray for Pastor Abraham and his church in Guatemala.
  - Pray for the work of Paul & Sarah Young and Dakota Baptist Church in North Dakota.