

“A New Creation”

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

False teachers went to the Galatian churches shortly after Paul planted them and taught that they must practice the Mosaic Law and believe in Jesus in order to have eternal life. In other words, they taught works-righteousness rather than Christ’s-righteousness. So Paul wrote to these confused Galatian believers in order to correct this false teaching and help the churches live in the freedom they found in Jesus.

Throughout the letter Paul reiterated that righteousness is by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone. Those who trusted in the righteousness of Christ were now free and no longer under the obligation of the Law. He taught that these Galatian gentiles were now part of God’s family and had the promised Holy Spirit dwelling within each of them. These believers were free in Christ and now part of God’s forever family.

Paul not only taught the Galatians the doctrinal truths of justification by faith but helped them understand the practical implications of these truths. In Galatians 5:13 Paul said, “*For you were called to freedom.*” He went on to say their freedom in Christ was given to them, not for themselves, but to love others. They were set free to love. This happens through serving others, meeting their needs, and obeying Jesus’ commands to fulfill the law of neighbor love. For Paul, and for us, this is the fruit of salvation by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone. Just as Christ loved us, we love others. Just as Christ served us, we serve others. Just as Christ was led by the Spirit, so we are led by the Spirit. Therefore walking by the Spirit doesn’t produce the works of the flesh. Rather it is evident that one walks by the Spirit because he/she produces the fruit of the Spirit.

As Paul closed his letter he summarized the theological themes that ran continuously through the letter. He wanted the Galatians to clearly understand that in Christ they were new creations who were living not for this world or the approval of others but were to live and long for the end of the world as they knew it; longing for God to make all things new in His new creation (Revelation 21:1-5).

As you prepare to meet with your Missional Community ask yourself if you live longing for the new creation. While you have been made new in Christ through faith in Christ and have the Spirit of Christ dwelling within you, you should still long for the day when Jesus finishes the new creation. Is your life ordered for that day? Do you live in light of your new creation identity? The Gospel that saves you changes you. You are a new creation!

Message Outline

As a New Creation...

1. Your Righteousness is in Christ alone. (11-13)

Seeking justification by works:

- Is a vicious temptation. (11)
- Is idolatry. (12a)
- Is a denial of the cross. (12b)
- Is impossible. (13)

2. Your Confidence is in the Cross alone. (14-15)

Three crucifixions:

- The Christ who became sin.
- The Curse of sin.
- The Craving to sin.

New life brings new...

- Nature.
- Habits.
- Affections.

3. Your Forever-Family is the Church alone. (16-18)

- The True Israel.
 - Peace.
 - Mercy.
 - Grace.
- The New Covenant people.
 - Family.
 - Missionaries.
 - Servants.

Missional Community Guide
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New Day Church

William Whaley

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Galatians 6:11-18

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 6:11-18:

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 for J & A and their children as they prepare for the mission field.
- 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.