

Deep Roots| Galatians 2:15-21 April 13th and 14th, 2024

My Story Questions

These questions/activities help the group know one another and transition to deeper discussion. Choose one. OR.... You might start the meeting with one person sharing highlights of their story. Set up a rotation.

- 1) Are you a gardener? What plants do you like to grow?
- 2) It is time to mow the lawn. What are your best lawn care tips? What is your least favorite outdoor chore?

Study Questions

Try to go in order from observation to interpretation to application. Feel free to choose a few questions you like from each section or add your own.

READ Galatians 2:15-21 -

The BIG IDEA: Living Gospel-centered declares that the “good news” is for everyone.

WARM-UP: What is the “good news”?

What are the types of people this good news is for?

Observation Questions: What do you observe about the text?

1) Notice the ESV footnote for justified: “counted righteous.” Discuss what this word means as it relates to Paul’s argument.

2) How is a person justified? What is the object of faith?

3) Do you see any promises for those who are crucified with Christ? What empowers the new life?

Interpretation Questions: What does it mean? (Let Scripture interpret Scripture)

4) Living Gospel-centered declares that the “good news” is for everyone. How are both “good” and “bad” people changed by the good news? How does it challenge you?

5) We are made right with God by what Jesus has done! “Justification by faith” How do you explain that concept in your own words?

6) Why do people feel uncomfortable with the notion that they bring nothing to the table and salvation is accomplished by Jesus alone?

7) How did Jesus’s death for us fulfill the demands of the Law? Romans 6:23, James 2:11

8) If following the law and doing good works does not make a person more loved or justified before God, what is the purpose of good works? Ephesians 2:10, James 2:14-18

9) We are now alive in Christ because Jesus loves us! What does it mean to be crucified with Christ? How can you explain this idea in your own words? How does the love of Jesus play an essential role in this?

Application Questions: What do I do?

10) Do you find yourself working for Jesus in an effort to gain His love and acceptance? How is that nullifying grace? What can you do to restore right thinking as you do good works?

11) What’s the difference between spiritual practices to gain intimacy versus to gain acceptance? When have you struggled with this? Why is knowing this critical in following Jesus?

12) In what activities this week can you depend less on yourself and more on the power of Jesus within you?

Responding to Jesus

Offer these questions for personal reflection before your group prayer time. Practice listening for God’s voice.

- 1) Ask Jesus, “What and where are you calling me to let go so that you may live fully in me?”
- 2) Ask Jesus, “When do I most often slip into legalism rather than remain rooted in grace?”