



This week Pastor Matt looked at what the Apostle Paul had to say about the transition that takes place from life under the law to life as sons and daughters of God. This week we will explore the markers of both life in the flesh and the new life now available that is in Christ.

- Galatians 3:23-4:11

REFLECT (10 Minutes)

How would you describe the effect of this week's sermon on you? Was there anything new or interesting that grabbed you from the teaching Sunday?

DIG DEEPER (20-30 Minutes)

Take a few minutes to read Galatians 3:23-4:11.

Have you ever tried to change something about yourself? What process did you use? How successful were you in changing?

Pastor Matt talked about a dangerous shift we can make in our spiritual lives. The shift from effort to earning. Many people are tempted (or have been taught) to practice spiritual disciplines to please God, when in fact they are meant as a means of transforming the soul. How does this idea altar your approach to the practices you already do?

Pastor Matt also talked about ways that our unacknowledged group dynamics can actually show outsiders that salvation is found in Jesus + (whatever the group identity markers are). What do you think are some dynamics that exist at Town + Field Church that we don't always take time to acknowledge. Remember these are not wrong. The question is whether we are willing to stretch outside of them for the sake of others.

Read Galatians 3: 28. What do you think this verse means? Why is Paul saying this?

Finally Pastor Matt talked about legalism that is self-righteous. James Bryan Smith writes, "Our self-righteousness does not turn God from us, but us from God. It is not my sin that moves me away from God, it is my refusal of grace, both for myself and for others." What is your reaction to this statement? In what ways does your own self-righteousness hold you back from God? How can we recognize self-righteousness in our lives?

RESPOND (10-15 Minutes)

Maybe vulnerability is true strength. This idea runs against cultural narratives that many of us hold. Who in your own life have you seen demonstrate strength through vulnerability?

Perhaps vulnerability is a posture of being abandoned to the Father's will in the same way Jesus was. Where are you still longing to say, Not my will but your will be done?

PRAY (10 Minutes)

Take some time to pray for one another. Pray that God would shape your mind, your heart, and your life by the Gospel. Pray that the Gospel (the good news of Jesus alone) would become more clear to you through this sermon series and that as it becomes more clear it would shape and form your life more fully.

LEADER NOTES

These questions are a guide; feel free to use/exclude ones as people may have already answered the question or talked about the theme OR if your group takes a long time to tackle one particular theme it's ok to skip over questions in the interest of time/focus.