

**Dig Deeper @Home – “Gather. Nurture. Make Disciples.”
Complement to sermon on October 8, 2017 – “Hold Accountable”**

MEMORIZE – Galatians 5: 5-6

For through the Spirit, by faith, we ourselves eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love.

READ Galatians 2: 11-21

Questions to ponder/discuss:

1. What is this passage revealing about God and what is it revealing about us as humans?
2. If the above is true, what needs to change in your life? What will that look like?
3. Look up the following scriptures and write down observations about accountability. How do these verses help you understand the purpose of accountability?
 - a. 1 Corinthians 5: 12-6:8
 - b. Proverbs 27:17
 - c. Proverbs 17:10
 - d. Proverbs 27:6
 - e. Luke 17:3
 - f. Matthew 7: 3-5
4. Paul says that Peter and other believers acted hypocritically. The word literally means to wear a mask; to play the part of someone you are not. Why is hypocrisy so damaging? Where have you seen it? Felt it? Been hurt by it? Acted hypocritically yourself?
5. Paul says that “a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ.” What does it mean to be justified? Why can this only happen through faith in Jesus Christ?

Bottom Line – Summarize Galatians 2: 11-21 in your own words

Experiential

Sometimes activities help us to understand and process biblical truths. The one below is a suggestion for how to experience the truths of Galatians 2: 11-21

Better 1 or Better 2 (or more)?

Accountability gets a bad rap. It's seen as a bad thing, as a punishment. But it's neither of these things. It's a gift from God that we can hold one another accountable. Let this exercise help you get a better taste in your mouth for accountability. Sit on the floor with legs crisscross applesauce style ("indian style" for the older generation). With using only leg strength and your feet, try standing up (no bending, no using your arms to lift or pull yourself up). Was it difficult or easy? Now, sit back to back with someone. Link your arms together at the elbows. Now try standing up together by pushing into each other and up at the same time. How was it standing up that time? Was it easier than by yourself?

Here's another one (if your group is large enough). With your back against a wall, lower yourself down and pretend to be sitting on a chair (also called wall squats). How long can you hold it? Now, circle up with your group (hopefully 6 or more). While still in a circle, all turn facing the same direction so that each person is looking at the person's back in front of them. Sit down. When done correctly, you should all be sitting on the person's legs behind you. If you need to, make your circle smaller so that you can do this. Is this easier or harder than wall squatting by yourself? This is the power of accountability.

SING (suggested songs to sing. Use these or any song you might want to sing)

[Hard Love](#)

A reminder that the Christian walk is hard love and we need each other.

[Who You Rollin Wit](#)

A hip hop song highlighting the importance of having strong Christ-followers in our lives to keep us accountable

Lord, I am Fondly, Earnestly – Mennonite Hymnal #585

As you sing this hymn, keep in mind that God transforms us through accountability with brothers and sisters in Christ

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. It is a time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us in our lives.

Sending prayer based on the lesson:

Heavenly Father, give us the courage to invite others along with us as we follow Jesus, through the messy and the real, that they we could both experience you in greater ways. In Jesus name. Amen.