

Dig Deeper @Home – “Transformed”

Complement to lesson on 10/23/22 – “To be Led by the Spirit”

ICE BREAKER – Questions to open dialogue and learn more about those gathered

1. What is your favorite story of someone achieving “freedom?” (movie/book/song/real life event)
2. Imagine being a slave who was set free. Describe what you envision feeling in that moment.

MEMORIZE – Galatians 6:15

“For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation.”

READ – Galatians 5:1-15

Questions to ponder/discuss:

1. Re-scan the text and consider...
 - a. Did the Holy Spirit cause anything in particular to “jump off the page” at you as you read? Why might that be? What could God be trying to say to YOU in this very moment?
 - b. Is anything repeated? Contrasted? Compared? (If so... why?)
 - c. What do these verses have to say about God and/or humanity? In light of these truths, what needs to change in your life? What are you already doing well?
2. Chapter 5 bursts out of the gate with a bold declaration that those who are in Christ have been set free and should not “submit again to a yoke of slavery.” If you have been following along, you will realize that this is not a new concept in the book of Galatians! (See Galatians 2:3-5, 3:23, 4:3-11) What is a yoke? What is it that they are in danger of once again being enslaved to? In what ways are we tempted to do the same?
3. In verses 1-15, Paul gives at least two serious consequences that await a person who attempts to be justified by the law. Yikes! What are they? (Hint: 5:2 / 5:4)
4. It is clear from verses 7-12 that Christ-followers must be careful and discerning about who we allow to influence our beliefs and our actions, as false teachers can lead us astray and “hinder (us) from obeying the truth.” What does Paul mean by the metaphor in verse 9?
5. Are Paul’s words towards these false teachers in 5:12 too harsh or unloving? Why or why not?

EXPERIENTIAL ACTIVITY – A Little Leaven...

When speaking of false teachers in Galatians 5:9, Paul says that “a little leaven leavens the whole lump.” Leaven is “a substance, typically yeast, that is used in dough to make it rise.” What he means by this illustration is that, like a small bit of yeast, which causes a whole loaf of bread to rise, just a little bit of false teaching can spread quickly, polluting the hearts and minds of those who hear it.

To really drive home what Paul is trying to illustrate, take some time to see the effect of “a little leaven” for yourself! Using your favorite recipe for a loaf of homemade bread (or the one provided here), make the bread (by yourself or in a group) and consider the questions below:

- What did the yeast do to the bread? How is this like false teaching?
- What false teachings might be attempting to infiltrate the church (and your own faith!) in today’s world?
- How can we know a “false teaching” or “false gospel” when we hear it?

Jessica's Rolls

INGREDIENTS

2 cups water
2/3 cup sugar
1 1/2 Tbsp yeast
1 1/2 tsp salt
1/4 cup oil
5 1/2 to 6 cups flour

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Combine water, sugar, and yeast and let it proof.
2. When yeast mixture is a creamy foam (about 10 minutes), add oil and salt.
3. Slowly mix in one cup of flour at a time. Use as much flour as needed to create a good, non-sticky dough.
4. Knead dough for about 5 minutes.
5. Oil a bowl, place the dough in it, and cover with a slightly damp cloth to let rise. Let rise for about 1 hour or until doubled.
6. After it has risen, punch down. Divide in half and shape loaves.
7. Place loaves into two well-oiled 9"x 5" pans. Allow to rise for about 30 minutes.
8. Bake at 350° for about 30 minutes or until cooked through. Place on a wire rack to cool.

SING (Suggested songs to sing. Use these, or any favorites of the gathered group, to worship Jesus!)

Elevation Worship – Call Upon The Lord - <https://youtu.be/EK-V8CDtk-8>

Passion – Glorious Day - <https://youtu.be/LfzpfqrPUDo>

Hillsong UNITED – Freedom is Here - https://youtu.be/ol_TieDsNmE

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

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. 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 series:

Father God, empower me to run well the race set before me. Guide me this week to walk by your Spirit, in your freedom, serving others and loving them as myself.