

**Women in the Word**  
**Galatians 1:11–2:21**

*September 17, 2015*

FREE & RICH  
IN CHRIST  
A Study of Galatians and Ephesians

1. Reread Galatians 1:1-10 from last week's study and recall what Paul was concerned about according to verses 6 and 7.

Has there been someone in your life you believed was a Christian who deserted their faith? How did it happen? What was your response?

2. Now read Galatians 1:11-24. Paul makes an important declaration to the Galatians in verses 11 and 12. Where did his message to them originate?

Why do you think the origin of Paul's message was important?

3. Paul shares his personal history in Galatians 1:13-24. According to verse 13, what was his first relationship with the church?

Describe his advancement in Judaism as a young man.

In verses 15 and 16 we learn that Paul's advancement as a Pharisee was interrupted. Who intervened and why? Read Acts 9:3-5,15.

Chronicle Paul's life after his conversion. Read Galatians 1:17-24.

4. What evidence is there that Paul was not dependent on the apostles for his ministry after his conversion?

How does this strengthen Paul's position as an apostle?

5. Read Galatians 2:1-10. Describe Paul's visit to Jerusalem. Who went with him and what was his mission?

Why do you think Paul brought Titus, an uncircumcised Greek, with him on his visit to Jerusalem?

6. How did the apostles James, Peter (Cephas) and John respond to Paul's message?

What important point did they recognize about Paul's message according to verses 7 and 8?

7. Read Galatians 2:11-14. Although Peter extends fellowship to Paul when he travels to Jerusalem, Peter's behavior in Antioch created tension between them. What caused Paul to rebuke Peter in Antioch?

How had Peter's actions affected those around him?

8. Why is it important for us to understand the simple truth of the gospel and live it out in our lives also?

What are some legalistic practices in the Church today that may lead people away from that simple truth?

9. Read Galatians 2:15-21. Define the word “justified” that Paul uses in verse 16.

Explain what Paul means when he says, “*a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ,*” in verse 16 (ESV). Read Acts 13:38-39; Romans 3:20-24; and Philippians 3:8-9 for insight.

10. In Galatians 2:17 Paul responds strongly to his opponents’ arguments that justification by faith promoted sin because it had eliminated the law. How would you answer someone who argued that your freedom in Christ gave you license to sin? Read Romans 6:1-4 and 1 John 3:9.

Describe the dramatic change in Paul’s life according to Galatians 2:19-20. Whom does he credit with this change?

11. Paul concludes chapter 2 with a strong statement. What would make Christ’s death on the cross meaningless?

Memorize Galatians 2:20 this week. How can you apply this meaningful verse to your everyday life?

12. Do you have a personal prayer request to share with your small group?

## ***Life Change***

Changed by \_\_\_\_\_ Revelation 1:11-24

*The gospel Paul preached did not originate with man.*

*He was changed from persecutor of the Church to a preacher among the Gentiles.*

*He had genuine authority as an Apostle*

***Be prepared to tell your story of life change since meeting Jesus.***

United with the \_\_\_\_\_ 2:1-10

*Paul sought to unite the Church with one gospel message.*

*He stood firm so that the true gospel would be preserved.*

*Peter, James and John gave their blessings and friendship.*

***Unite with other believers to proclaim the one true gospel to the world.***

***Stand firm because true life change comes only from the true gospel.***

Confronted Others about \_\_\_\_\_ 2:11-14

*Paul confronted Peter when he retreated to legalism out of fear.*

*Barnabus and others fell into hypocrisy with Peter.*

*Paul boldly challenged Peter to live out the truth of the gospel.*

***Confront legalism in your life because it leads people away from the true gospel.***

Justified by \_\_\_\_\_ Alone 2:15-21

*Even as a Jew by birth, Paul recognized that he was justified by faith alone.*

*Justification means “to declare righteous”.*

*Paul’s new life came from his identification with Christ, past, present and future.*

*If righteousness comes by keeping the Law, Christ’s death was a pointless mistake.*

***Rejoice in the freedom and righteousness of Christ that is yours.***

*Justification is an instantaneous legal act of God in which He thinks of our sins as forgiven and Christ’s righteousness as belonging to us and declares us to be righteous in His sight.”*

*Grudem’s Systematic Theology*

**Free and Rich in Christ Galatians 1:11-2:21**

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**Acts 9:1-6** But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven shone around him. And falling to the ground he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" And he said, "Who are you, Lord?" And he said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But rise and enter the city and you will be told what you are to do."

**Acts 9:15** But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel."

**Matthew 28:19** Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Ephesians 2:8,9** For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

**Acts 15:1** But some men came down from Judea and were teaching the brothers, "Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved."

**Acts 11:17,18** "If then God gave the same gift to them as he gave to us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God's way?" When they heard these things they fell silent. And they glorified God, saying, "Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life."

**Galatians 5:1** For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

**Romans 3:23** For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

**Ephesians 1:7** In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace.

**Isaiah 61:10** I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

**Romans 8:31,32** What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?