

Study Buddies

Quick Bible Reference Guides

GALATIANS: Amazing Grace

Note: This resource was prepared based on the Contemporary English Version of the Bible. It is always good to use more than one Bible version as a reference. This practice will enable you to compare the languages of the translations and gain a fuller understanding of the text.

Overview

Galatians gives us an insight into the Apostle Paul's strong faith. It also addresses a very controversial thought that had different people in the church in an uproar: This letter emphasizes that God has made people his children by faith in Jesus Christ rather than by adhering to the Law. Furthermore, the text explains how Jesus Christ has set God's children free from the Law (5.1) and the Holy Spirit guides them (5.16) towards being loving, kind, good and self-controlled (5.22,23).

Key Points and Verses

Please read the whole book to gain the fullest experience. These points are just a few of the highlights that have been encapsulated from the text.

- 1.6-12 Pleasing God rather than people
- 1.13-24; 2.1-2 Paul's calling
- 2.16-21; 3.2-14 Freedom in Jesus Christ
- 5.13-26 God's Spirit helps avoid abuse of freedom
- 6.11-16 Bragging rights

Study Questions

1. How were certain people trying to make the Galatians turn away from the good news about Christ? (1.7; 3.1-14; 5.1-15; 6.12-15). Why was this a problem?
2. What do you think Paul means when he says that "Christ rescued us from the Law's curse?" (3.13). What does this mean for the way Christians live?
3. Paul says that "Christ has set us free!" (5.1). In what ways are Christians free? What does this kind of freedom include? What, if anything, are its limits?
4. What does Paul mean when he says, "you will harvest what you plant?" (6.7). Think about your life a year from now... five years from now. How do the decisions you make today affect your future?
5. Compare the list in 5.19-21 with the list in 5.22,23. Where do the items in each list come from? What does Paul mean when he says that "God's Spirit has given us life"? (5.25).

Something to Think About

Reread 5.13-15. Have you been set free? What roles do the Law and the Holy Spirit play in your life?

Study Buddies

Quick Bible Reference Guides

Dear Group Leader:

If you're looking for a straightforward resource to enhance study time with your group, you have come to the right place. Study Buddies give a brief synopsis of the Bible book you wish to study and highlight key points and verses throughout the text. There are also thought-provoking questions included to get the discussion going.

These study sheets were prepared based upon the Contemporary English Version of the Bible. But when studying, it is always good to use more than one version as a reference. We encourage this practice because it will enable you and your companions to compare the language of the translations and gain a fuller understanding of the text.

Study Buddies can be used at church, in the home, or in the workplace (where permitted) **free of charge**. Here are a few ways for you to get the most out of them:

- Use in church classroom settings for both adult and youth groups. Add a little flavor by touching upon topics that are relevant to your community. Are you in an urban setting? Rural? Suburban? How does your community compare to the communities and people of the Bible? Find ties that will make the lessons personal and relevant to the specific circumstances that you are facing.
- Use with people who don't know much about the Bible. Maybe they are new Christians or people who are uncertain about what the Bible is about. These sheets can act as a primer to basic Bible knowledge about the contents of each book and why it was written.
- Use during family time with your teens and pre-teens as a reinforcement to the lessons learned in church. While your son or daughter may already think that they're adults, these study sheets can help you help them transition into adulthood with grace and compassion.
- Finally, use with your neighbors, co-workers, friends and loved ones who have expressed an interest in the Bible. Form a small in home group and increase your awareness of what the Scriptures are saying. Try to develop bonds that will help each of you remain faithful to God and his Word.

We hope that you'll find these study sheets to be an excellent starting point for your lessons.

Sincerely,
American Bible Society