

# COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION - 10/14-15/14

## JESUS = ALL WE NEED: GALATIANS 3:1-14



### SCRIPTURE

**GALATIANS 3:1-14** (ask for a Bible if you don't have one)

### BIG IDEA

In Galatians 3:1-14, Paul is helping these churches see that they *became Christians* through faith in Jesus and *continue to grow as Christians* through looking to and trusting Him, not their own works. The same is true for us. We are not saved by the grace of God through faith in Jesus, and then graduate to trying very hard to be good so that God will keep loving us. We are to live moment by moment depending on Jesus alone to justify and sanctify us, knowing that we are acceptable to God through faith in Jesus alone. So what does this mean for us? It means *all we need for the future* is not found in our human-effort to perfect or finish ourselves. Rather, all we need for the future is found in continual faith in Jesus and His work to perfect us by His finished work on the cross. God "will bring to completion the good work that he began in [us]" (Philippians 1:6). In addition, it means *all we need for today* is not found in our "living by" or "relying on" our works and achievements. If we live by or rely on anything other than Jesus for our fulfillment and happiness, we are under a curse—"Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them" (Galatians 3:10). But If we live by and rely on Jesus and faith in what He's done, we are blessed with being counted righteous and with the presence and power of God the Holy Spirit. But how did Jesus become all we need? He became all we need by becoming all that we were—a sinner under a curse. "Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us" (Galatians 3:14). He became our perfection by taking on Himself all of our imperfections and dying in our place; He became the One who gives us the blessing, by becoming a curse for us on the cross.

### DISCUSSION

1. Was there anything from the sermon, the big idea, or Galatians 3:1-14 that **stood out** to you, **challenged** you, or **confused** you?

*In Galatians 3:1-14, Paul is helping these churches see that they became Christians through faith in Jesus and continue to grow as Christians through looking to and trusting Him, not their own works.*

2. How does Paul make this point in verse 1-6? What are the answers to Paul's questions in verses 1-6?

*All we need for the future is not found in our human-effort to perfect or finish ourselves. Rather, all we need for the future is found in continual faith in Jesus and His work to perfect us by His finished work on the cross. God "will bring to completion the good work that he began in [us]" (Philippians 1:6).*

3. What are some ways that those in our culture try and "perfect" or "finish" themselves through their own effort? What about you, personally? How is the fact that *Jesus is all we need for the future* giving you hope and joy?

*All we need for today is not found in our "living by" or "relying on" our works and achievements...But If we live by and rely on Jesus and faith in what He's done, we are blessed with being counted righteous and with the presence and power of God the Holy Spirit.*

4. What does living by, or relying on, the law lead to? Why is this, do you think?

**10** *For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, "Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them."*

5. If verse 10 is true, how can God count us as righteous without being unjust (v 13)? What does trusting in this give us? Why is this exciting?

### GOOD WORD

*Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. – 1 Peter 1:13*