

*Sermon Questions for Life Groups*

***The Gospel in the Law: Gal. 3:15-25***

***Pastor John Mahaffey***

Sunday, February 11, 2018

*These questions are generated by several authors for Life Group discussions  
or family or personal devotions*

1. How do you handle the natural predilection to save yourself and/or earn God's favour by keeping the law?
2. Review God's promise to Abram in Gen. 12:7. Note the meaning of 'seed' as explained in Gal. 3:16.
3. What does Gal. 3:15-25 say about Christ? Make sure to note every reference to him. What is the connection between Christ and the Promise? What is the relation between Christ and the law?
4. What is Paul saying about the Promise in relation to the law? Which is more important? Which is superior? Does the law nullify the promise?
5. Paul asks two questions in this passage about the law. What are they and how does he answer each question?
6. Review and describe the picture of God's grace given in Gen 15:8-18 and confirmed in Gal. 3:18.
7. What does Paul mean when he says that the law locks us up? (vs.23) How does the law serve as a guardian to point us to Christ? (vs.24)
8. What does it mean that we are no longer under the supervision of the Law? (vs. 25) Does this mean we are now free to break God's law?
9. In looking at the purpose of the law, Pastor John used an example of a mirror; how does a mirror explain the purpose of the law? (review Romans 7: 7-9)

10. Read Romans 8:1-7 and discuss the following:
- a. Pastor John's message spoke of the law being powerless to save because it merely shows what has been done and not how to fix it. What term does this verse use to refer to our own efforts at living well?
  - b. Why are we so unsuccessful in our attempts to please God in this way?
  - c. How does this passage refer to it when we attempt to live well with God's help?
  - d. In your own life, as well as in lives that you have observed, what are some of the evidences that we are "living by the Spirit"?
11. How would you explain the role of the Law for salvation, when challenged by non-Christians?
12. In what ways does living the Christian life, as prescribed by Matthew 22:37-40 and Galatians 6:2 fulfill the law? Can we do these things by following rules?
13. Pastor John referred to those Christians who enforce versions of the "Law" on others as spiritual porcupines. Given the theme of today's message, how would you address them in the future when they put on the armor of the law?
14. Think back to your own conversion. What part did God's law play in bringing you to Christ?
15. Would you have come to Christ if the law had not been active in you? Take some time in grateful prayers for God's gracious salvation.

**Prayer Requests for this week:**

1. Continue to pray for those who are/will be hearing the Gospel through WH outreach these days: Alpha on Thursday evenings right now, Chinese Lunar New Year on February 24.
2. Pray for families in our church that are experiencing spiritual attack.
3. Pray for our Prime Minister, Premier and their governments – that God would direct their paths.