

Sermon Questions for Life Groups

The Climax of the Gospel II: Gal. 4:1-7

Pastor John Mahaffey

Sunday, February 25, 2018

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

1. Review Gal. 3:26-29 and define and review the benefits of **Justification** and **Adoption**.
2. Read Gal 4: 1 – 2 and discuss what the Scriptures mean (in the ancient world) when an heir is under aged, he is no different from a slave? In this context, what role did the Law play in their lives?
3. How does Paul describe our condition when we were under the Law (before we placed faith in Christ)? What is the slavery he is talking about? Slavery to whom or to what? How did the Judaizers exacerbate the situation?
4. What does Paul mean by the phrase “we were in slavery under the elemental spiritual forces of the world” or “under the basic principles of the world”? (vs. 3. See also chapter 4:9.) Do you see this still happening in today’s world?
5. Consider the parallels between the Israelites in these verses and those in Deuteronomy 15:15.
6. In what sense did God send his Son “when the time had fully come”? Why was he sent? In what ways was Jesus uniquely qualified to do the task set for him? What is the significance of Jesus being born to a woman who lived under the Law? Ref. Romans 8:1-4.
7. Those in Christ have a new status through faith in him – adoption as sons and heirs. Consider the benefits of this adoption (and compare it to our society’s legal adoption).
8. What further blessing does the sending of the Spirit bring? See Romans 8:5-8, Rom. 16:26-27 and 33, 2 Cor. 3:18, 2 Cor. 5:17 and Gal. 2:20.

9. Read Romans 8:6-10 and discuss how this message provides hope for us in our struggle against sin.

10. In considering the gift of Sonship and the accompanying inheritance that Christ bestows on all who trust in Him for salvation, read the story of Abram in Gen. 15:1-6:
 - a. How do we attempt to “help” God fulfill this promise to us?
 - b. How did God respond to his questions? How can we be reminded of God’s promises to us?

11. How does having an “Abba Father” relationship help ensure that you don’t go back to your former life? What assurances do we have from the Bible? (I John 1:9, Philippians 1:6, Daniel 9:9, Colossians 1:13-14, etc.)

Prayer Requests:

1. Pray for Roger Lemay and family on the sudden loss of wife and mother, Sally.

2. Pray for the Haiti/Galcom team that leaves next week to spread the message of Jesus.

3. Pray for the follow up of the 35+ people who indicated their interest at the Chinese Lunar New Year event.