

GALATIANS 4:21-5:1

Pray. Tell God you know He's with you. Tell Him you're depending on His love and insight in your life and in this study. Thank Him for these things.

Write out the memory verse you want to most concentrate on this week. The verses are Galatians 1:3-5; 2:15-16; 2:20. Write it here.

Read Galatians 1:1-5:1. (Now this Galatians' territory will seem familiar and friendly to you.)

1. From Galatians what have you seen to be the essence of the true gospel?

Read again Galatians 4:21-5:1.

2. To whom does Paul address this section?

3. How does Paul argue using their own terms?

4. For background read Genesis 12:1-3; 16:1-4a, 15; 17:15-21; 21:1-3, 8-13 and Hebrews 11:11-12. From these verses and from Galatians 4:21-5:1 contrast Abraham's two sons and what they represent.

8. In each case what would be the alternative approach and results?

Read again Galatians 4:30-5:1.

9. Who does the slave woman or bondwoman represent
a. for the Galatians?

b. for you?

10. Explain *what* the yoke of slavery is and *how* we stand firm against it?

11. What will all this freedom look like when displayed in your life? (It won't be sprinkling flowers hither and yon as we dance wildly from mountain top to mountain top. Nor will it be a set of the jaw, get-out-of-my-way-world, rugged individualism. Think about how Paul displayed his freedom to the Galatians. Read also Galatians 5:13.)

12. What steps can you take to move toward expanded freedom? Be specific where you can. (Read also Matthew 11:28-30.)

Read this encouraging benediction slowly, and out loud to yourself if possible:

Depart now in the fellowship of God the Father, and as you go, remember: In the goodness of God, you were born to this world; by the grace of God, you have been kept all the day long, even until this hour; and by the love of God fully revealed in the face of Jesus, you are being redeemed. Amen.

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