

Discussion Questions for 3/23/25 Message

Galatians # 17: What it Means to be Free (Gal. 5:13-18)

Scriptures Referenced in Message: Gal. 5:1; 5:13-18; Jn. 8:34; Romans 13:10; Matt. 22:36-40; Ephesians 5:18; Acts 5:3; Romans 6:12-13; 8:3-5)

In Paul's letter to the Galatians, he urges them to return to the freedom they found in the grace of God, and to throw off the bondage that comes through trying to walk under the Law. But once they regain this freedom, Paul explains that they need to use their freedom in the right way, because freedom can be a very powerful force in their lives.

Read Galatians 5:1, and then verses 13--18

1. In verse 13, Paul says "You, my brothers, were called to be free." In what ways does the biblical concept of freedom contrast with our culture's ideas?
2. In Verse 13, there are two commands. List them.
3. How might the second command be a counter to, or cure for the first?
4. **Read Matthew 22:36-40**, where Jesus sums up the whole Old Testament Law with just two laws. In Gal. 5:14, Paul mentions the second of these two commandments. How would our obedience this one command (v.14) "fulfill" the many relational parts of the Old Testament Law?
5. In verse 16, what would happen if the Galatians lived by the power of the Holy Spirit?
6. Why, in particular, would "walking in the Spirit" fulfill this and the other parts the Law?

7. In verse 17, Paul describes a battle. In your own words, describe it to a 10-year old.
8. In verse 17, what is one result of this battle? Why is this so?
9. Walk back through the passage, and construct a "Freedom List", with each item starting with: "Because of Jesus I am now free to...." And, because of Jesus I am now Free NOT to...".