

CALVARY CHAPEL COSTA MESA

– COMMUNITY GROUP LEADER GUIDE –

Galatians Series: *Free in Christ* “Sons & Heirs” - Galatians 4:1-7

FELLOWSHIP

The perfect domestic home life really doesn't exist anymore, except in TV re-runs. It is becoming rare to be raised in a two parent home, even more rare that they are both Christians, and rarer still that grandparents and extended family are healthy participants. Brokenness has become the norm, “blended” is the positive way our culture has tried to express it. Jesus reconciles our brokenness with God, and teaches us to call him Father. While this is a personal spiritual breakthrough, collectively it means we are part of the same family!

PRAY, READ, DISCUSS

Read Galatians 4:1-7, pray for understanding, and then ask each other how this section of Paul's letter applies to your lives.

Galatians 4:1 *Think of it this way. If a father dies and leaves an inheritance for his young children, those children are not much better off than slaves until they grow up, even though they actually own everything their father had. v.2 They have to obey their guardians until they reach whatever age their father set. v.3 And that's the way it was with us before Christ came. We were like children; we were slaves to the basic spiritual principles of this world. v.4 But when the right time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, subject to the law. v.5 God sent him to buy freedom for us who were slaves to the law, so that he could adopt us as his very own children. v.6 And because we are his children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, prompting us to call out, “Abba, Father.” v.7 Now you are no longer a slave but God's own child. And since you are his child, God has made you his heir.*

- This passage reminds me of boarding or military schools. Why do parents send their kids away to be trained at these academies? Why did God install the Law as a stop-gap measure to keep God's children safe? What does Jesus change regarding our position with God? How does Jesus change our relational aspect with God? What are some of the benefits we can now experience?
- Since the believer in Jesus has been adopted, they have been placed into a family. How did your upbringing affect the way you felt about God and the Church? What are your expectations now for God and His Family? How has this study in Galatians helped you to better understand what this family should look like?
- Most of the world is in some kind of upheaval. People are being threatened or even herded across continents. This is symptomatic of a spiritual displacement that the Gospel promises to reconcile. Whether next door or across time zones, who has God put on your heart that needs Jesus? The time is right, what is your plan to be missional in your community?

PRAY

Please finish your time together by breaking into smaller groups so we can encourage and pray for each other as openly as possible.

