

CALVARY CHAPEL COSTA MESA

– COMMUNITY GROUP LEADER GUIDE –

Galatians Series: *Free in Christ*

“The Law: Our Tutor to Bring Us to Christ” - Galatians 3:15-29

FELLOWSHIP

While the Bible is a manual for the individual on how to relate to God and live this life, really it is a history of how humankind has done that together. We are inclined towards social groups! Praise God that as followers of Jesus, we have found the best organization to be a part of, the body of Christ.

PRAY, READ, DISCUSS

Read Galatians 3:15-29, pray for understanding, and then ask each other how this section of Paul's letter applies to your lives.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT: “Sociology and the Bible.” Humans have always gravitated towards groups that found some kind of mutual culture. When organization or rules begin to emerge then there are the beginnings of a society. History is a voluminous work of the rise and fall of how people have tried to live together. With the direct connection to God lost in the Garden, mankind was left without a real way to structure their lives. But God made a promise He would reopen that relationship through His Son. Those that held to that promise endured thousands of years of those who rebelled against it. The Bible is a history of how God's Law became the guardian of his children until the revealing of the promise, Jesus Christ.

- Read Genesis 9:9 and 12:2-3. When God makes promises, what do these passages say about their scope? What do we learn about God's intentions towards us?
- The Old Testament can feel long in the details of Israel's procedural requirements from God. Why do we study it? How do we apply it?
- Jesus changed the way one is supposed to view God. What kinds of things did He introduce to the Jews that were different? Why were they better? Why did so many reject his concepts? How have your views of God changed once you found Jesus?
- Paul says in vs. 26 and 29, that we are now God's children, and included with that, “heirs.” What does that entail relationally? How does that make you feel regarding your future? Both relational and positional, what kinds of responsibilities are now on us?
- Verse 28 reads, *There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.* Paul saw Jesus as the means to reconcile all social sub-groups under one new family identity. What kind of social ills could this promise solve for us in the United States? What personal, private prejudices do we still hold that are waiting to be baptized by Christ?

PRAY

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

