Sept. 21/22, 2013

Study Questions
Why Did Jesus Die?

Free Indeed: A Study in the Epistle of Galatians

Galatians 2:11-21

Opening Discussion

1. Are you a legalist? Why or why not?

2. Did Jesus have to die for us to be saved? Why or why not? Is there any other way?

3. Does grace create a license to sin? Explain.

Bible Study

1. Read Galatians 2:1-21

2. Read Acts 10:1 - 11:18. What does God teach Peter? How hard was it for Peter to get this? Why?

   How does Peter defend himself when he is confronted for eating with Gentiles?

3. Peter's experience in Acts 10 and 11 precedes the events in Antioch described in Galatians 2. What happened to Peter?

   Was it a lack of understanding? Was it a lack of knowledge?

   Can you identify times as a Christian when you were motivated more by fearing the legalists than by the Spirit of Jesus in you? What was that like? Was that freedom or bondage?

4. Paul calls Peter and the other Jews with him hypocrites. What is a hypocrite?

   What qualified Peter and others as hypocrites in this situation in Antioch? What would that look like for us? Is it easier to see our own hypocrisy or to see it in others?

5. To be justified means to be declared "just" or "righteous" before God. What is the basis by which we are justified?

6. The legalists insist that grace becomes a license to sin. Therefore they return to law to control people. Why is this belief flawed? What is the truth?

7. Is the death of Christ needed if we can merit righteousness through works? Then what do we learn by the fact that Jesus did indeed die?

Application

1. Are there any areas of your life right now where you are guilty of hypocrisy like Peter?

   Do you treat others consistent with the grace you have so freely received?

2. Are there any "legalists" in your life who are pressuring you to abide by law rather than grace?

   How are you responding to them?

3. What evidence is there in your life that Christ lives in you?

4. Is there a need for law if Christ lives in you?

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