

# ONLY ONE GOSPEL – EXPLORING GALATIANS

## Talk 6 – Gal 5:1-12 – It's for freedom Christ has set us free

### Small group questions

Leaders – Choose *some* from the following. Don't feel the need to work through each one!

If the questions make no sense or you don't know the answer,  
please contact [bishop@bathurstanglican.org.au](mailto:bishop@bathurstanglican.org.au)

What does freedom mean to you? Share a time in your life when you experienced a new freedom which was pretty exciting.

Read Galatians 5:1-12.

#### Claim it

1. Reflecting on the message, what does it mean for us to "claim" the freedom that Christ has provided for us?
2. How does the imagery of being set free from slavery to sin and death impact your understanding of the freedom we have in Christ?
3. Share a personal experience or testimony of how embracing your freedom in Christ has transformed your life and perspective.

#### Or forget it!

1. How do you respond when someone tries to add rules or conditions to your faith? What scripture do you use to defend your freedom?
2. Discuss the dangers of trying to mix legalistic practices or self-righteousness with the gospel message of grace. How does this dilute the power of Christ's sacrifice?
3. What does it mean to you that "neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value...the only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love"?
4. Share your thoughts on the radical statement in Galatians 5:12 regarding those who promote legalism within the church. How does this reflect the seriousness of maintaining the purity of the gospel message?

#### Checklist

5. Are you **enjoying** your freedom? What does that look like in your daily life?
6. Are you **relaxed** in your faith, or are you still trying to earn your salvation? What's holding you back from relaxing in grace? Discuss the difference between striving to earn God's favour and resting in His grace.
7. Are you **confident** in your salvation, or do you still have doubts? What scripture do you use to anchor your confidence?
8. How does knowing that we are justified by faith impact our outlook on life and our relationship with God?

#### Conclusion

9. Share practical ways in which you can remind yourself daily of your identity in Christ and the freedom you have through His sacrifice.

*Prayer idea: Heavenly Father, Thank you for the powerful reminder of the freedom we have in Christ. We ask for your grace to help us claim this freedom, forget any tendencies toward legalism, and live confidently in your love. May we continually enjoy, relax in, and remain confident in the truth of your gospel. Guide us in applying these truths to our lives and sharing them with others. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

**Introductory Question:**

Freedom is a universal human desire. Sharing personal experiences of newfound freedom can help relate to the concept of freedom in Christ.

**Claim it!:**

1. Embracing freedom in Christ means living without the burden of sin and death.
2. The imagery of slavery to sin and death highlights the magnitude of Christ's sacrifice.
3. Personal testimonies can inspire others to embrace their freedom in Christ.

**Or forget it!:**

1. Responding to legalism with scripture defends the gospel message.
2. Mixing legalism with grace dilutes the power of Christ's sacrifice.
3. Faith expressing itself through love is the only thing that counts.
4. The radical statement in Galatians 5:12 emphasizes the importance of maintaining the purity of the gospel message.

**Checklist:**

1. Enjoying freedom in Christ looks like living with joy, gratitude, and purpose.
2. Relaxing in grace means trusting in God's favour rather than striving to earn it.
3. Confidence in salvation comes from scripture and faith in Christ's sacrifice.
4. Justification by faith impacts our outlook on life, relationships, and our identity in Christ.

**Conclusion:**

1. Practical ways to remind oneself of identity in Christ include memorising scripture, prayer, and community.