

Message Notes

From Whom, To Whom & Why?

Getting Grace: A Study of Galatians

Galatians 1:1-5

February 10, 2007

Message Outline

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**GALATIANS is a REAL LETTER from a REAL GUY
to REAL PEOPLE about a REAL GOSPEL.**

1. a REAL LETTER

- Passionate Letter
- A Purposeful Letter
- An Early Letter

2. from a REAL GUY

- Transformed by God . . . a man with a story!
- Appointed by God . . . a man with a mission!

3. to REAL PEOPLE

- People living in South Central Turkey.
- People who have come to faith in Jesus.
- People struggling to figure out the Gospel.

4. about a REAL GOSPEL

- A Historical Gospel
- A Personal Gospel
- A Cosmic Gospel
- God's Gospel
- An Experiential Gospel

Growth Group Understanding Questions

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1. Read Galatians 1:1-5 and compare it with 2 or 3 other opening paragraphs from Paul's letters. What's similar and what's different? What did you hear from the message that might explain this?
2. Read the entire book of Galatians and describe what you see? Is it a mishmash of topics or is there a progressive argument? What is the tone? Why might Paul write this way?
3. What is the primary purpose of Paul's letter to the Galatians and how is this important issue foreshadowed in the opening paragraph?
4. What references do you see in this opening paragraph to Paul's own authority and how does this issue relate to the larger primary purpose of the letter? To put it another way, why does Paul seem to defend his authority?
5. What 3 or 4 dimensions of the Gospel do we see here in this opening paragraph? Why are these revolutionary and universe changing?

Growth Group Application Questions

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1. What was new and most challenging in the text/message this week and why?
2. Why do we not see the realness of the Bible? Why do we think the Galatians were different than us? How can we reconnect and see ourselves in them and in the text?
3. Why do you think that God, in His providence, uses this idea of "reading someone else's mail" to communicate New Testament Biblical truth? How does this work? Why is this also a challenge sometime?
4. Which dimension of the Gospel that Paul mentions is most "REAL" to you these days? Why?

