**“FREE IN CHRIST”**

 **Galatians 3:1-14**

***Sermon Review***

*What was the Main Point of the Sermon from Sunday?*

*What part of the Sermon did you find to be the most beneficial?*

***SMALL GROUP LESSON***

* 1. Why is it important for Christians to study the Old Testament? What are some of the dangers of ignoring the Old Testament?

* 1. What is the relationship between faith and obedience?
	2. If someone close to you displayed a lack of knowledge about a subject you knew well, what would you do about it?

**Galatians 3:1-14 (NLT2)**
1  Oh, foolish Galatians! Who has cast an evil spell on you? For the meaning of Jesus Christ’s death was made as clear to you as if you had seen a picture of his death on the cross. 2  Let me ask you this one question: Did you receive the Holy Spirit by obeying the law of Moses? Of course not! You received the Spirit because you believed the message you heard about Christ. 3  How foolish can you be? After starting your Christian lives in the Spirit, why are you now trying to become perfect by your own human effort? 4  Have you experienced so much for nothing? Surely it was not in vain, was it? 5  I ask you again, does God give you the Holy Spirit and work miracles among you because you obey the law? Of course not! It is because you believe the message you heard about Christ. 6  In the same way, “Abraham believed God, and God counted him as righteous because of his faith.”
7  The real children of Abraham, then, are those who put their faith in God.
8  What’s more, the Scriptures looked forward to this time when God would declare the Gentiles to be righteous because of their faith. God proclaimed this good news to Abraham long ago when he said, “All nations will be blessed through you.”
9  So all who put their faith in Christ share the same blessing Abraham received because of his faith. 10  But those who depend on the law to make them right with God are under his curse, for the Scriptures say, “Cursed is everyone who does not observe and obey all the commands that are written in God’s Book of the Law.”
11  So it is clear that no one can be made right with God by trying to keep the law. For the Scriptures say, “It is through faith that a righteous person has life.”
12  This way of faith is very different from the way of law, which says, “It is through obeying the law that a person has life.” 13  But Christ has rescued us from the curse pronounced by the law. When he was hung on the cross, he took upon himself the curse for our wrongdoing. For it is written in the Scriptures, “Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree.” 14  Through Christ Jesus, God has blessed the Gentiles with the same blessing he promised to Abraham, so that we who are believers might receive the promised Holy Spirit through faith.

***EXPLORE***

What rhetorical question did Paul ask? ([3:2](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Gal+3%3A2))

Why did Paul ask the Galatians if their suffering had been for nothing? ([3:4](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Gal+3%3A4))

On what basis did the Holy Spirit perform miracles? ([3:5](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Gal+3%3A5))

How did Paul’s use of Abraham as an example of faith strike a blow to the champions of the Law? ([3:6-8](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Gal+3%3A6-8))

Why is combining faith and Law impossible? ([3:11-12](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Gal+3%3A11-12))

***APPLY***

1. How does the law help us see our sin? How does the law prepare us for grace?
2. What are some ways we look to the law to produce the obedience that only the gospel can bring about?
3. In your own words, explain what it means that Jesus fulfilled the law of Moses.
4. How much of your righteousness is self-righteous behavior?
5. In your view, what is the biggest difference between Law and faith?
6. How can you help new Christians get a clear understanding of their position in Christ?

**Additional Thoughts:**

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