



# GALATIANS

*grace changes everything*

## Sermon Questions

Date: *September 17, 2023* | Scripture: *Galatians 1:10-24*

1. Read the passage from the sermon together. What do you find convicting? What do you find challenging? What do you find confusing?
2. Paul is contending with the claim that he is a people-pleaser. How were his opponents making this argument? In what way did they claim he was a people-pleaser?
3. Paul starts his response by retelling his own story from 10:11-2:14, then explicitly answering the claim starting in 2:15. Paul first addresses his past in Judaism and then the change that came about from encountering Jesus. Describe both of these versions of Paul.
4. How have you experienced the transformative power of the gospel upon encountering Christ?
5. Why is it important that Paul did not receive his gospel from Peter or James first? Why then did he still confirm his gospel with them?
6. How did the gospel free Paul from people-pleasing? How does it free you from people-pleasing?

### *Inward Grace in Action*

One of the pitfalls the Galatian church had fallen into was confusing looking like Jesus with looking like themselves. When new Gentile converts came into their community, they were thrilled! They were happy they wanted to follow Jesus, and then told them “Here’s what it means to follow Jesus: you have to completely abandon your own culture and adopt ours.”

We are just as susceptible to this pitfall today as the Galatians were back then. All too often we elevate our own preferences, political views, and cultural idiosyncrasies to the level of Christian essentials. Paul asserts this is a false gospel.

- What are some of your own preferences you are tempted to elevate to the level of Christian essentials? Or more mildly, what are the things you find yourself judging other Christians for when they’re different from you?
  - How you dress at church? How you express emotion in worship? What your view on baptism is? Who you vote for? Whether you send your kids to public school, private school, or home school? Whether they go to a Capital Pres Family church or not?
- How can you start to be more charitable with Christians who are different from you?

**ACTION:** Spend some time in prayer this week asking God to reveal to you where you’ve mistaken your own preferences for Christian essentials. Repent of those things specifically and seek to change the way you interact with fellow Christians in light of this truth.