



# GALATIANS

*grace changes everything*

## Sermon Questions

Date: *October 1, 2023* | Scripture: *Galatians 2:15-21*

1. Read the passage from the sermon together. What do you find convicting? What do you find challenging? What do you find confusing?
2. This passage picks up at the end of Paul's rebuke to Peter. Summarize Peter's error and then put Paul's rebuke in your own words.
3. The false gospel distinguishes between "insiders" and "outsiders." For the Galatians, "insiders" were Jews and "outsiders" were Gentile sinners. We are tempted to make the same false divisions in our own time and place. Who are the "insiders" in our church? Who would be deemed an "outsider"? Do you feel like an insider or an outsider here?
4. What correction does this passage give us regarding "insiders" and "outsiders"?
5. In verses 17-19, Paul is having an imaginary debate with the false gospel. What is the false gospel's objection to Paul's message? What is Paul's response? Try to answer in your own words.
6. How are you processing the reality of your union with Christ? What is comforting about that truth? What do you find hard to accept?

### *Inward Grace in Action*

The false gospel argues that in order to be justified, you must become an insider, you must maintain God's standard perfectly, and you can never mess up. That might sound wholly unattractive to you, but the false gospel is actually far more alluring to us that we'd like to think. In fact, it's so alluring that of all people, the apostle Peter fell for it. You and I fall for it all the time, too.

This Fall, we want to grow in our gospel fluency. The problem is, we're all learning true gospel fluency as a second language. Our heart language is the false gospel. We really like this sort of false gospel so long as we're the insiders, we get to determine the rules, and we get to decide when we've broken them. It's a way of exercising control to make ourselves feel justified. But in reality, we're using our own standards to distract ourselves from the real dividing line between us as sinners and God. If we persist in holding to the false gospel, it places us under judgement. Unless we die *to* the law, we will die *under* the law.

- What are the rules you like to hold onto to justify yourself? Or put another way, what are the rules that make you feel most indignant when other people break them?

**ACTION:** One of the best remedies for our false-gospel inclinations is to spend time looking at our Savior, who loved us and gave himself up for us (Gal 2:20). Make a list this week of who you were apart from Christ and who you now are in Christ.