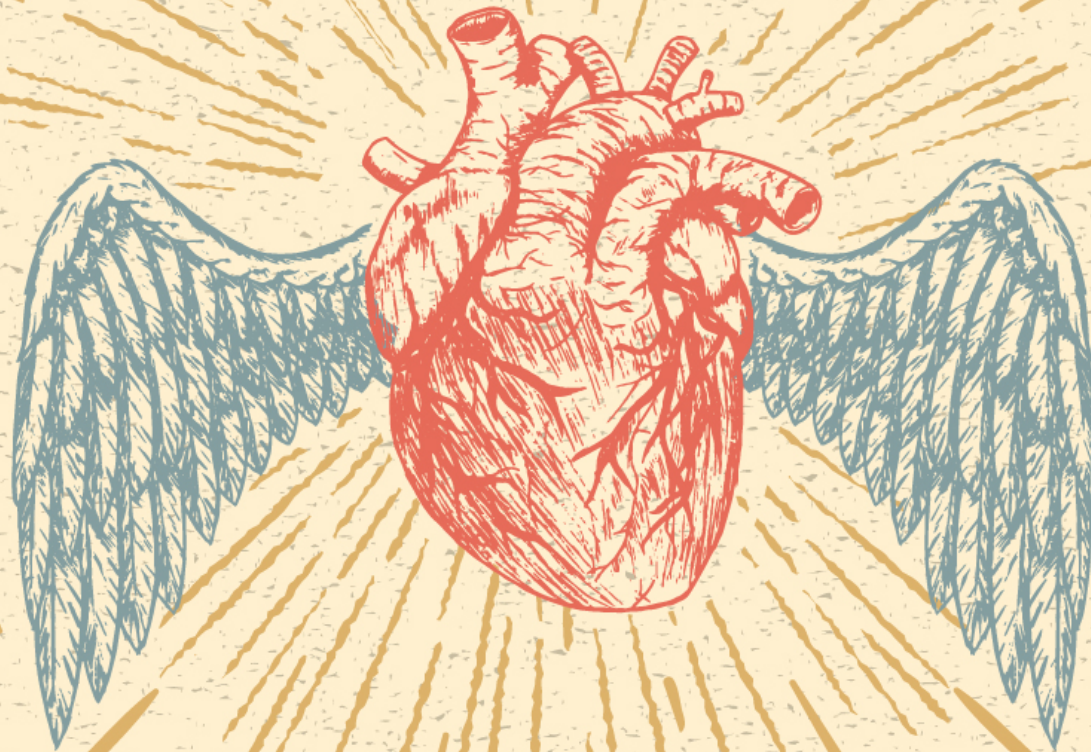


GALATIANS

NO OTHER GOSPEL



WEEK 6 | GALATIANS 3:15-29

GUIDANCE IN STUDYING SCRIPTURE:

1. PLAN

"I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken." Psalm 16:8

Notice the intentionality of the phrase, "I have set." This is active engagement. You have to make a *plan* for reading the Bible or you will fall back into indifference. Program your automatic coffee pot, lay out your Bible, journal and pen and set your alarm clock. You will also need a Bible reading plan; at the end of this study guide there is a reference page with multiple plans you can choose from.

Quick tip: Do everything in your power to not look at your phone the first thing in the morning because then you immediately become preoccupied with the cares of this world.

2. PLEAD

"Incline my heart to your testimonies, and not to selfish gain." Psalm 119:36

Pray this verse every morning or others of your choosing before reading because our hearts are not inclined to want to focus on Scripture. We want to check our email, the weather and Instagram. *Plead* with the Lord to give you the desire to read His word. Plead with Him to open the eyes of your heart so you can behold His glory in the text. (Psalm 119:18)

3. PLOD

"I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways. I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word." (Psalm 119:15-16)

"Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything." (2 Timothy 2:7)

This may be the most difficult aspect for us. We are a people of instant gratification and the Word of God cannot be treated as such. We need to be trained to *plod* through the Bible; that is, read it slowly, carefully, and methodically.

We are called to be transformed by the renewal of our *mind* (Romans 12:2). Sometimes we can tend to gravitate toward the emotional highs of Bible reading. What happens when the affections run out and we are in a valley? Like a fish out of water we flounder, not knowing what to read, all the time wondering what happened to our emotional high with the Lord.

4. PRIZE

"How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth." (Psalm 119:103)

Do not be passive as you read the Bible. Look carefully for verses and passages of scripture to *prize*. Look for the treasure hidden in each passage of scripture and then write it down, meditate on it, let your heart enjoy the spiritual truth that you find. Job 23:12 states, *"I have treasured the words of his mouth more than my portion of food."*

Quick tip: as you read, you are always on the lookout for anything in the text that gives you reason to trust and love Jesus as your greatest treasure.

5. PRAISE

"In God, whose word I praise, in the Lord, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can man do to me?" (Psalm 56:10-11)

When you are finished reading, look back over what you have written down (if you do decide to journal) and respond to the Lord in *praise* about the truth you have discovered.



WEEK 6 — GALATIANS 3:15-29

To give a human example, brothers: even with a man-made covenant, no one annuls it or adds to it once it has been ratified.¹⁶ Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, “And to offsprings,” referring to many, but referring to one, “And to your offspring,” who is Christ.¹⁷ This is what I mean: the law, which came 430 years afterward, does not annul a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to make the promise void.¹⁸ For if the inheritance comes by the law, it no longer comes by promise; but God gave it to Abraham by a promise.¹⁹ Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions, until the offspring should come to whom the promise had been made, and it was put in place through angels by an intermediary.²⁰ Now an intermediary implies more than one, but God is one.²¹ Is the law then contrary to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law.²² But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.²³ Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed.²⁴ So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith.²⁵ But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian,²⁶ for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith.²⁷ For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.²⁹ And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

QUESTIONS

Based upon what Paul has argued in Galatians 3:1-14, why would verses 15-18 be relevant?

Read verse 16 carefully, who do all of the promises, blessings, and inheritance truly belong to?

If Christ is the only one who has a right to the promise, blessing, and inheritance of salvation and eternal life with God, what do you think are the implications are for our only access to salvation?

Read Ephesians 1:3-8, in what way do you see similarities to our salvation and eternal blessing being found only in Christ?



Why is Paul bringing up the question at the beginning of verse 19? Think about his argument in verses 15-18.

Why would it be a good thing for God to give us the law if it only provoked our sin more and exposed how sinful we really are?

Read verses 19-23 and see if you can summarize Paul's point in a sentence or two.

Paul describes the law as our guardian until Christ came into our lives. In verse 26, the idea of "guardian" or "schoolmaster" is contrasted with being a "son of God, through faith." What do you think characterizes someone who is a child and someone who is under a schoolmaster? How does this carry over into your understanding of someone who lives under the law and one who lives freely for God?

Read Romans 7:7-11. What similarities do you see here that Paul said in verses 19-23?

Paul says that we have "*put on Christ*." Why would us "putting on Christ" make sense of verses 28-29?

What specific phrases and language does Paul use in Romans 7:7-11 that helps you see the true power of sin *within us*?

How does putting on Christ make sense of Paul's point back in verse 16?

