



SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Week of December 12 & 13, 2020

Please use these questions to stay connected as a church to meditate on the same sermon preached from God's Word this week. May this be a fruitful time for the building up of our church and for the spread of the gospel.

Sermon Text

Galatian 5:1-6

If you were not able to listen to this week's sermon, then please refer to this link to listen prior to answering these questions, <http://hawaiiKaichurch.org/sermononline>

Summary

In our passage today, the Apostle Paul is warning the Galatians that if they accept circumcision as a means to be saved, then they will be rejecting the Gospel and will suffer unimaginable loss. But if they stand firm in Christ, it will mean ultimate, eternal and great gain. Galatians 5:1-6, therefore, gives a warning of great loss as well as a hope of great gain.

Discussion Questions

1. Paul warns the Galatians that when it comes to accepting circumcision, they are at a crossroads - they can either choose to stand firm and persevere in the freedom that is theirs in Christ, or they can choose to submit and subject themselves to a yoke of slavery. What modern day example(s) of this "crossroad" can you think of that you or other Christians face today?
2. Paul warns the Galatians that if they tried to live according to their own standard of goodness (which included circumcision), then Christ would be worthless to them. Van Michael said, "*Here's how you get a worthless Jesus - give lip service to faith in Him but in reality trust in our own*

goodness and our own concept of what is and what is not a good person”

Why is it wrong and even dangerous to trust in our own goodness?

Similarly, why shouldn't we trust in our own concept of what is and is not a good person?

3. Paul said that if the Galatians were to accept circumcision, then they were obligated to keep the entire law perfectly. Why do you think people believe that they can be “good enough” to get into heaven on their own merit? What don't these people understand about what Van Michael called, “an unpayable debt”?
4. Van Michael said that for those who do not trust in themselves, but instead put their faith in the work of Christ, there is a confidence in the hope of future righteousness (see v.5). Based on this, why should true faith in Christ lead to confident, hopeful, expectant living?
5. Through the Spirit, and in Christ, all God's people have a future hope of righteousness and a present life of love. “Faith as the root, producing love as the inevitable fruit.” How do you think true faith in Christ leads to a life characterized by love? Is your life characterized by love? What does this say about your faith in Christ?