

Series: The Gospel-Centered

Title: The Good News that Makes Us NEW

Text: Galatians 4:1-7 and 5:13-26

Breaking the Ice:

OPTION # 1 – What is the first concert you ever attended? [year, band/singer, location]

OPTION # 2 – If you could go anywhere you wanted for one day only this week, where would you go and who would you take?

Discussion/Study:

1. Read Galatians 4:1-7 and 5:13-26 – The result of the gospel is that we are given a new status and position before God, by faith in Christ we become His children. God is our Father, and fellow Christians are now our brothers and sisters in Christ. In the same way that a child doesn't pick his or her siblings, this means that the gospel brings us into fellowship with people who are different than us and who we might never connect with in the same way apart from the gospel. Have you experienced friendships with people in the church that you don't think you would have connected with otherwise? How has your common belief in the gospel brought you together despite your differences?
2. Read Galatians 5:13-26— Paul tells us that the desires of our sinful nature are against the desires of the Spirit, and vice versa. One of the implications of this is that when we sin, we do so because we want to and we are living out our desires. How does getting to the heart behind our desires when we sin actually help us in our repentance? What do we miss out on in our repentance when we don't directly deal with the deeper desires behind our sin, and simply address our behavior?
3. Read Galatians 5:13-26— Paul tells us that the power to fight our temptations is ultimately found in depending on the Holy Spirit that lives within the heart of God's people. What "walking with the Spirit" look like in your own life?
4. Read Galatians 5:13-26— In calling the Galatians Christians to live out the gospel by "loving their neighbor" he then describes the "fruit" that Christians are called to bear in relationship with one another. Look back at Paul's list of the "fruit of the Spirit". How have your relationships given you the opportunity to bear these different fruits? How have your relationships given you the opportunity to see others bear these fruits?
5. Read Galatians 5:13-26— Michael used the illustration of the Gospel Waltz to demonstrate how the Christian life is a life of ongoing repentance, belief, and obedience. Back over this

tool in your small group this week or with someone close to you, and reflect on the following questions:

- a. What stands out to you about the Gospel Waltz Tool?
- b. In the flesh (i.e., your natural tendency) what step of the Gospel Waltz do you tend to live out?
- c. If you are parent, how is the Gospel Waltz reflected in your parenting? What does it look like to “waltz” with your children?