

Living Free

Spiritual Slavery

Message 8

Perry Duggar

August 4, 2019

► Outline

Now you are no longer a slave but God's own child. And since you are His child, God has made you His heir.

Galatians 4:7 (NLT)

Warning against returning to spiritual slavery by...

(Galatians 4:8-20)

1. Reverting from _____

to _____.

(Galatians 4:8-12a. C/R: John 14:15; Romans 5:20-21; 6:15-18; Colossians 2:16-23; 1 John 2:3-6; 5:3)

2. Rejecting the _____ of _____.

(Galatians 4:12b-16. C/R: John 9:2; Acts 13:43-14:1; 22:6-13; 23:1-5; Romans 16:22; 2 Corinthians 12:6-9; Galatians 6:11)

3. Receptivity to _____.

(Galatians 4:17-20. C/R: Matthew 7:15-17; Romans 16:17-18; Colossians 2:8; 1 Timothy 1:3-11; 2 Timothy 4:2-4)

Answers: 1. freedom, rule-keeping 2. messenger, grace 3. manipulation

Resource Information: Unless otherwise noted, Scripture verses are from the *Holy Bible*, New Living Translation (NLT). C/R refers to a 'cross reference.' Today's outline and discussion guide are available through the Brookwood Church app.

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► Discussion Guide

Use this guide by yourself or with friends to study the Bible and pursue a deeper relationship with God. Check out other Bible study tools at biblegateway.com, biblestudytools.com or blueletterbible.org.

Conversation Starter

Describe a time you felt trapped.

Opening in Prayer

Thank God for His faithfulness. Spend a few minutes quieting your heart, asking God to guide your time in study and personal reflection.

Personal Reflection/Group Discussion

Galatians was written by the apostle Paul to several early Christian communities in the province of Galatia, which is modern-day Turkey (see [Acts 13-14](#)). In this letter, Paul addresses how these young Christians were being misled and missing out on the true freedom found only in the *Good News* of Jesus Christ.

Read [Galatians 4:8-20](#).

1. What did Paul mean when he said the Galatians had been *slaves to so-called gods that do not even exist*? What *gods* was Paul referring to? What's another way to say what Paul was getting at?
2. Why would a person choose to live as a slave to rules rather than relating to God as a son or daughter?
3. How do you respond to the idea that you can know God? How do you respond to the idea that God knows you? See also [Psalm 139](#).
4. If you were applying [vs. 10-12](#) to your life, what would it look like?
5. What do you think caused the Galatians to lose their *joyful and grateful spirit* ([vs. 13-16](#))?

6. What things cause you to lose a *joyful and grateful spirit*?
7. What was the contrast between what Paul wanted for the Galatians and what the false teachers wanted?
8. What *false teaching* is most prevalent in our culture? List some Bible verses that reveal this is false teaching.
9. What does it mean to have *Christ fully developed in our lives* ([vs. 19](#))?
10. What truth or Bible verse from this week's teaching means the most to you? Why?

The journey from teaching about love to allowing myself to be loved proved much longer than I realized. — Henri Nouwen

Soul Training

Spend time thinking about joy this week. How much true joy have you felt recently? What does God want to say to you about joy? For further insight, read through and meditate on [1 John 1:1-4](#).

Memory Verse

Now you are no longer a slave but God's own child. And since you are His child, God has made you His heir. [Galatians 4:7 \(NLT\)](#)

Daily Reading

Day 1: [1 Timothy 1:12-17](#)

Day 4: [Romans 6:20-23](#)

Day 2: [Hebrews 9:11-15](#)

Day 5: [Ephesians 5:1-9](#)

Day 3: [Psalm 146:1-10](#)

Prepare for Next Sunday

We'll continue our *Living Free* series on **Galatians** with a message titled CHILDREN OF PROMISE. To prepare read [Galatians 4:21-31](#).

