

FOOD TIME: (30-45 minutes) – Remember to give some direction for this time.

MEETING TIME: (45 minutes)

As we continue in the book of Galatians, Paul is driving home what living in the faith of who Christ is like for not just the church at that time, but to everyone. As chapter 3 transitions into chapter 4, we receive encouragement that through Christ, we are all heirs of the promise that is given to everyone. That promise is not just for the Jews, but it is for everyone, and Paul emphasizes that in this part of Scripture. The important thing to note in all of this is that the promise that Christ gives us is constant for all. It adds to the call that Paul gives to the church and to us that we should live a life worthy of God's character.

READ Galatians 3:26-4:7

26 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. **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 neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. **29** And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed and heirs according to the promise. **4:1** Now I say that the heir, as long as he is a child, does not differ at all from a slave, though he is master of all, **2** but is under guardians and stewards until the time appointed by the father. **3** Even so we, when we were children, we were in bondage under the elements of the world. **4** But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, **5** to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. **6** And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!". **7** Therefore you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

FACILITATE Discussion Questions

1. Why is it so important that Paul emphasized that the heir is not specific to the Jews?
2. How hard is it to combat being under the bondage of the elements of the world?
3. What does it mean to be redeemed from the law?
4. How can we show on a daily basis that we are no longer a slave to our sin?
5. Why does Paul put such a focus on why we should live under the grace that Christ provides through His sacrifice?

PRAY- Take the last 10 minutes to pray about the needs of the group.

APPLICATION- One of the true blessings that we are given when we open ourselves to a relationship with Christ is peace. We are able to have a peace to know that God is truly in control and that He loves us unconditionally. It is through our faith that we can continue to walk worthy of His name. This week, as you enter into conversations, and have situations that you walk into, try and remember what Paul said in this passage; that the grace that God gives us on a daily basis is not for a select few, but it is for everyone. Yes, even that person who cuts you off in traffic and yells at you for being in their way. Try and show that grace and that love to everyone you come into contact with. Also, if there is something that you are walking through and you feel like you are in bondage to something, remember that God is always willing to forgive and always willing to redeem us. That we can accept His forgiveness in our lives, and not let ourselves sit in that bondage. Find ways to encourage one another and to encourage others who may be walking through something as well.