

Sermon #3: Galatians

Sermon Title: I am Amazed!

BREAKING THE ICE

Share a time when you received news or information that completely changed the direction of your life or your career. How did you verify that the information was true?

UNDERSTANDING THE TRUTH

Read the Passage: Galatians 1:11–24

1. Look at verses 11–12.
 - a. How does Paul describe the origin of the gospel he preaches, and what two specific sources does he explicitly deny receiving it from?
 - b. What was the specific method by which Paul received the gospel?
 - c. How does Paul's former life strengthen his argument about the power and truth of the gospel?
2. In verses 13–14, Paul reviews his life before Christ. How does he describe his attitude toward the church of God and his standing within Judaism compared to his contemporaries?
3. Read verses 15–16.
 - a. Who is the primary actor in these verses and what three specific actions did He take toward Paul?
 - b. What was the specific purpose of God revealing His Son in Paul (v. 16)?
4. What was Paul's immediate response regarding consulting with others after God called him (vv. 16–17)?
5. According to verses 18–19, how long was it before Paul went to Jerusalem, who did he see, and how long did he stay?
6. In verses 22–24,
 - a. What was the relationship between Paul and the churches of Judea?
 - b. How did they respond to the report of his conversion?
7. How does verse 24 help us understand the ultimate purpose of gospel transformation? (Look at Matthew 5:16)

SEEING JESUS CHRIST

Paul insists that his gospel is not a human invention but came through a "revelation of Jesus Christ." This means Jesus is not just the subject of the gospel; He is the active Revealer who breaks into human history to rescue sinners. Paul's conversion shows us that Jesus is the pursuer of His enemies, transforming a man who tried to destroy the faith into a preacher of the faith.

- If Jesus is the active Revealer who pursues His enemies, how does Paul's conversion challenge the way you view your own story—or the people you think are "too far gone" for God to reach?

MAKING IT MATTER

1. How does the divine origin of the gospel give you confidence in Scripture amidst a culture that views truth as relative?
2. God called Paul by grace despite his violent past. Is there anyone in your life you feel is "too far gone" for God to save? How might God be calling you to engage them?
3. The churches glorified God because of Paul's transformation (v. 24). What changes in your own life must you share so that others may give glory to God this week?

PRAYING FOR GOD'S POWER

“This is the confidence we have before him: If we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have what we have asked of him.” - 1 John 5:14-15 When we pray according to God's will, it engages the power and guidance of God to bring about our transformation. If we apply these truths in our own strength, it becomes legalistic obedience. But when we humbly ask God to change us and empower us according to His will and by His Spirit, it becomes transformational and glorifies Him.

- Share one specific application from today's lesson you would like to see transformed in your life. Take time to pray that God would transform you as you trust Him in this area.