



Delivered From Evil

Week 4

Alpha Prayer Points

- Pray for the Holy Spirit to work in the hearts of those who came to Spring 2023 Alpha and who are meeting now in twice-monthly post-Alpha groups. Pray that as they meet and learn about spiritual practices they would see God in their midst.
- Pray for God to prepare the hearts of those who will come to the October 7 Movie & Taco event. May they be drawn toward friendship with Jesus.
- Fall 2023 Alpha starts October 26th at 8am. Pray that Presbyterian School parents come, and for momentum for others to join. Pray also for God to raise up leaders and for smooth logistics.

How Did it Go?

10 Minutes

Provide support, encouragement, and accountability to one another in putting the word of God into practice. We want to find ways to live out the scripture we study.

- What stuck with you from last week's study, and how were you able to put that into practice in your life?
- Did anything get in the way between you and living out the word of God that you studied last week? If so, what? How can you intentionally plan to counteract that this week?

Read Aloud

Passage for this week: **GALATIANS 3:1-14.**

Head

15-20 Minutes

Observe the text and the author's main points.

1. Why does Paul use such strong language to confront the behavior of the Galatians?
2. How does Paul describe the faith of Abraham as it relates to righteousness?
3. How does Paul argue that Christ bridges the divide between descendents of Abraham and new believers, including Gentiles (who are not Jewish)?
4. What is the "curse" of the law? Who resolved it? How?

Heart

15-20 Minutes

Envision how the text - when applied - might transform your inner life in terms of your thoughts, attitudes, and behaviors.

1. Is it hard or easy for you to accept that the gospel is a gift—that you can do nothing to earn it? How does that idea impact your view of God?
2. From before Abraham to the death of Christ to today, God has been working to draw you near. Do you ever think about the idea that your salvation was on God's heart from the beginning?
3. Redemption comes at a price. What must God think of us to be willing to pay that price? What are you willing to do to protect that truth?

Hands

10 Minutes

Apply the text by moving from inward reflection to outward action looking for ways to live the text out in our lives. These are specific, concrete examples but they are not the only way - they are idea-starters for how to put the word of God into practice.

Reaching Upwards: Growing in Your Relationship with God

- How does the behavior of the Galatians believers parallel your own? What other ways are we susceptible to the same mistakes about God's work now as they were then?
- Prayerfully ask God to reveal where you have transformed the Gospel into a works-based system and gain a sense of justification in your own life.
- Commit to reading through the six chapters of Galatians several times during this sermon series.

Reaching Outward: Investing in Your Neighbors

- Do you know anyone who believes they are “too far gone” for salvation? Consider how you might share the right view of the gospel in light of Paul’s words to the Galatians.
- We are welcomed as one of God’s children without any work required from us. How might you display this to someone in need this week?

Reaching Beyond

- On the third Thursday of every month at noon, there is an Engaging the Muslim World Prayer Time. Consider joining this prayer group that prays, among other things, for Muslims to understand that Jesus requires no works to be in relationship with Him. For more information and to receive a virtual link to the meeting, contact Madie Weir, Missions Coordinator mweir@fpchouston.org.
- Each month FPC Outreach has a Movie & Taco night which is a great opportunity to get to know seekers. Consider inviting a friend to participate with you as an opportunity to offer a safe environment to discuss the gift of the gospel. The next Movie & Taco night is October 7. For more information, contact Evangelism Coordinator, Hannah Gawlik hgawlik@fpchouston.org.