

20 October 2024 – Questions to Discuss and Consider at Home or in Small Group
“Why the Galatians Were Not Making Spiritual Progress” -- Galatians 5:7-12

Questions to Answer from the Text:

1. What were the Galatians doing previously that they were not doing presently (v. 7a)?
2. What were the Galatians NOT doing (v. 7b)?
3. What was hindering their progress (v. 7b)?
4. Why was the Galatians' behavior a problem (v. 8)?
5. Why would it be a problem to allow the individual who was confusing the Galatians to continue his preaching and teaching (v. 9)?
6. Was Paul ultimately discouraged that the Galatians would cave to the false Gospel of his rival teachers? Why or why not (v. 10)?
7. How had Paul's Gospel been mischaracterized (v. 11a)?
8. What reason did Paul cite to demonstrate that circumcision was not a part of his Gospel message (v. 11b)?
9. When circumcision is included as part of the Gospel message, what is the result (v. 11c)?
10. What astonishing wish did Paul say that he would like to see happen to those who proclaimed the necessity of circumcision to be saved (v. 12)?

Questions for Reflection and Discussion:

11. How does false teaching often spread in a body of believers?
12. If pastors, elders, and Sunday School teachers are not one hundred percent correct in everything they teach, how can Christians be protected against false teaching?
13. What counts as false teaching?

14. Is everything that is “false” in a minister’s preaching and teaching a cause for spiritual alarm or church discipline? Why or why not?

15. How important were the Trinitarian and Christological controversies of the first four centuries? What essential matter lay at the heart of these debates?

16. What should you do if you suspect a pastor or elder says something contrary to Scripture?

17. Is it ever appropriate for a minister of the Gospel to personally denounce another preacher or teacher in the ministry? Why or why not? If so, when is it appropriate?

18. Why is the Gospel important?

19. In what forum, or among what group, might you expect the Gospel to be corrupted? Why?

20. Why is the cross an offense?

21. How is the friendship and approval of the world detrimental to spiritual progress?

22. How do you discern whether you prefer the world or the Lord Jesus in your life?