

Free to Be Series
“The Good News is Free”

Galatians 1:1-10

This letter is from Paul, an apostle. I was not appointed by any group of people or any human authority, but by Jesus Christ himself and by God the Father, who raised Jesus from the dead. All the brothers and sisters here join me in sending this letter to the churches of Galatia.

Galatians 1:1-2 (NLT)

The good news is free.

May God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ give you grace and peace. Jesus gave his life for our sins, just as God our Father planned, in order to rescue us from this evil world in which we live. All glory to God forever and ever! Amen.

Galatians 1:3-5 (NLT)

...Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said. He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, just as the Scriptures said.

1 Corinthians 15:3b-4 (NLT)

Law doesn't offer grace or peace.

Going from good news to bad news.

I am shocked that you are turning away so soon from God, who called you to himself through the loving mercy of Christ. You are following a different way that pretends to be the Good News but is not the Good News at all. You are being fooled by those who deliberately twist the truth concerning Christ.

Galatians 1:6-7 (NLT)

I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you to live in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel..

Galatians 1:6 (NIV)

Grace vs Rules.

And so the Lord says,

“These people say they are mine.

They honor me with their lips,

but their hearts are far from me.

And their worship of me

is nothing but man-made rules learned by rote.

Isaiah 29:13 (NLT)

Grace vs Works.

God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. ⁹ Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it.

Ephesians 2:8-9 (NLT)

Grace is a person.

We believe that we are all saved the same way, by the undeserved grace of the Lord Jesus.”

Acts 15:11 (NLT)

Don't mess with the good news.

Let God's curse fall on anyone, including us or even an angel from heaven, who preaches a different kind of Good News than the one we preached to you. I say again what we have said before: If anyone preaches any other Good News than the one you welcomed, let that person be cursed.

Galatians 1:8-9 (NLT)

These people are false apostles. They are deceitful workers who disguise themselves as apostles of Christ. But I am not surprised! Even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. So it is no wonder that his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness. In the end they will get the punishment their wicked deeds deserve.

2 Corinthians 11:13-15 (NLT)

We choose rules or works to please people.

Obviously, I'm not trying to win the approval of people, but of God. If pleasing people were my goal, I would not be Christ's servant.

Galatians 1:10 (NLT)

SO WHAT?

Sin is no longer your master, for you no longer live under the requirements of the law. Instead, you live under the freedom of God's grace.

Romans 6:14 (NLT)

We don't change the good news, The good news changes us.

Growth Group Questions

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. If you were in prison unjustly and had the opportunity to escape, but could lose your life in the attempt, would you try?
2. Tell of a time when you felt like you were set free from something.
3. Grace is undeserved, unearned, and unmerited favor. What are some differences between living by Grace and living by the law?
4. Re-read Galatians 1:6-7. What kinds of things do people try to add to the good news of GRACE that Christ died for us and completed the work of salvation? (What kinds of rules or works?)
5. Re-read Galatians 1:8-9. Where have you seen people preaching or teaching something other than grace for salvation?
6. Re-read Galatians 1:10. What kind of spiritual things have you seen people do (or abstain from) to please others?
7. How can you embrace grace this week? What kinds of rules or works can you throw off to embrace grace.