

MESSAGE GUIDE

DON'T GO BACK!

(An Introduction to Galatians)



February 3, 2019

CONNECT

- Think of a time you were freed from something. It could have been a debt, an addiction, a disease or a contractual obligation. Maybe it was something else. How did you feel when you were no longer bound to whatever it was that held control over you?

STUDY

This week we begin a new study through the New Testament book of Galatians! Galatians is a powerful letter about the beauty and importance of grace. Galatians has been referred to as the “Declaration of Independence” or the “Magna Carta” of the New Testament, because it reminds the believer that, in Christ, they have been freed from sin’s bondage, as well as freed to live as God intended. All in all, Galatians overflows with good news!

In our Sunday message, we took on the first 5 verses of Galatians 1, which serve as the introduction to the letter. Read through Galatians 1:1-5 and see if you can come up with answers to the following questions:

- Who wrote the book of Galatians?
- Was Galatians written to a single church or a group of churches?
- How did the author describe himself in verse 1? What is the significance of this description?
- What did the author wish for his readers according to verse 3?

- How did he describe the work of Jesus in verse 4?

- Whose will was it that Jesus would be our deliverer? What does Jesus deliver us from? (verse 4)

APPLY

- Even though the Bible declares our salvation as complete, have you ever felt the need to do something more? Why is it we sometimes feel like some religious activity is necessary to attain (and maintain) our standing with God?
- Perhaps the most religious people found in the entire New Testament were the Pharisees. They covered all the bases! Yet, give Matthew 23 a reading to get an idea of how Jesus felt about all their external religiosity. Then, summarize Jesus message to the Pharisees.
- In the message, Pastor Kurt shared this equation: Jesus + nothing = everything. What are some of the types of things we might be tempted to add to our salvation in order to feel like our salvation was more sure and secure?
- What does adding extra activities to our salvation say about our perspective of Christ’s work on the cross?