

Set Free Together Galatians 2:15-3:29

It is not good to be alone

Galatians 2:15-16

No one can deserve God's loving acceptance

It is not universal

It is not by being good enough

It is not by being religious or spiritual enough

The Good News = the Gospel

God's loving acceptance is a free gift to all who put their faith in Jesus Christ

The Big Idea

The Gospel is the gift of Life in Christ

Galatians 3:1-29

1-3

They received God's love as a gift by faith

Then as God's children, they were trying to earn His love

17-19a

Abraham (about 2100 BC)
> the Covenant/Promise

23-25

Moses (about 1500 BC)
> the Law

26-29:

Jesus (about 30 AD)
> the Promised One



The Big Idea

The Gospel is the gift of Life in Christ together

When different things are combined

Concentric circles: Law of Moses

Melting pot: differences are melted into the whole

Color blindness: ignoring or downplaying differences

Mosaic: different parts glued together, making a beautiful whole from distinct pieces

Human body: differences and blending in unity



Core Value: DIVERSE UNITY

We deeply value our unity in Christ in the midst of the richness of diversity of His body and in our congregation. We value the diversity of culture, age, educational level, socioeconomic status, kinds of work and careers, and so on. ... We believe that what makes us the same as human beings (in particular, we are made in the image of God yet spoiled by sin, so we are in need of a savior, and Jesus Christ is the Savior for all who believe) is more fundamental than all of the differences between us.

1. We pursue unity in Christ in the midst of this rich and growing diversity. ...
2. We intentionally pursue diversity in Christ in all aspects of our life as a church...
3. We endeavor to walk in humility, valuing others above ourselves, willing to listen and learn before we seek to help others understand.
4. We value "healthy discomfort" that is a mark of putting the needs and concerns of others before our own ... as well as the "healthy comfort" of receiving care in a way that fits who we are.
5. ...we place each part of each difference under God...

Are you feeling alone?

Receive the gift of Life in Christ through faith

Join the journey of Christ's body

Who around you might be feeling alone?

See and know them

Love them as Christ does

Point them to Christ's love

Reflection Questions for later today or this week...

1. How have you experienced being alone, whether or not other people are around?
2. How would you describe the Good News in Jesus Christ?
3. In what ways can diversity be a good gift from God? (For example, consider the human body...)
4. In what ways can diversity be challenging? What helps?

Conversation starters this week

Do you ever feel alone? What makes you feel alone?

When you are alone, what helps?

Have you ever experienced being known and loved by God?