

DISCUSSION GUIDE

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE LAW?

Galatians 3:19-29

Sola Fide (Galatians) — Week 8

ICEBREAKER: Who was/is your favorite school teacher? Why?

OVERVIEW: The main theme of Galatians is justification by faith alone. We don't need to keep the law to get to heaven. So then, what is the purpose of God's law? If we don't need it to get to heaven, can we ignore it? Is it irrelevant? The law does not save, but it does serve a very important purpose. It teaches us how sinful we are so that we will reach out for salvation through Christ. In this discussion we will go deeper with the real purpose of God's law.

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday's message?)
2. Do you agree with this statement: "Rules are made to be broken"? Explain.
3. Can you name all of the Ten Commandments? In order?
4. What are John Calvin's three uses of the law?
5. Read Romans 6:15-18.
 - a. What does it mean that we are not under law but under grace? What does it NOT mean?
6. What does Paul ask in verse 15? Why does he ask this question?
 - a. What is Paul's answer to his question in verse 15?
 - b. How should Christians treat God's law today?
 - c. Are there any laws in the Bible that are no longer binding on Christians today?
6. For the following questions, refer to Sunday's sermon and Galatians 3:19-29.
 - a. In verse 19 Paul asks, "Why was the law given?" Why does he ask this question?
 - b. Verse 19 says the law "was added for the sake of transgressions." What does this mean?
 - c. Verse 24 says the law "was our guardian until Christ." The Greek word for "guardian" was used for a slave who took the master's children to school. How does the law take us to school?
 - d. How can we use the law in the task of evangelism — leading lost people to Christ?

The Last Word: "You cannot be saved unless you know you need to be saved."