

The Call to Cross Over: *The Book of Galatians*

Cross Over from Division to Unity

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Galatians 3:23-29

August 16, 2026

Introduction: Our summer series this year focuses on Paul's letter to the Galatians. In this letter Paul addresses conflict that has arisen in the church which threatens to divide it. This conflict began when a group of Christians who had converted from Judaism came to the church. These formerly Jewish Christians who were known as the Judaizers were insisting that followers of Jesus needed to obey completely the Old Testament Law of Moses including dietary restrictions and circumcision among other practices. Paul's response to the church reminds them and us that to live by the cross is to live by grace.

Review: From last week's sermon: What do you need to let go of that is limiting your relationship with God?

Read: Galatians 3:23-29

Prayer: Holy God - Father, Son and Spirit, you are one. Bring us together as we study your word. Amen

Discussion:

1. When you were younger what rules did your parents and teachers insist that you follow? How did these rules prepare you for life as an adult?
2. How do God's laws as given in the Old Testament point to their fulfillment in Jesus Christ?
3. What groups do you sort people into? What is your purpose behind doing this sorting? Does your sorting help you to be a faithful follower of Jesus?
4. How are all the children of God similar? What have they all experienced? What has God done for them?
5. How does God see and sort people?

Application: Ask God to show you how he sees the people in your life.

Prayer: Lord, you have made us all to be your children. Help us to treat our siblings well. Let us see each other as you see us. Amen