

SMALL GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

Watch the video summary of the **February 2, 2014 Sermon** (3.5 minutes), "Good Motives, Bad Motives."
Please read the sermon passage (Galatians 4:12-20) together out loud.

Small Group Questions (Galatians 4:12-20)

Sermon Outline: "How do we minister to people with whom we are 'perplexed'?"

1. **Challenge them to remember their initial response to the Gospel (vv 12-16)**
 - a. "Become like me," says Paul, in faith and freedom and grace.
 - b. "Because I became like you," in my methods and customs.
 - c. It was Paul's SUFFERING that provided an opportunity for the Gospel.
2. **Challenge them to recognize spiritual opposition and how to resist it (vv 17-20)**
 - a. Opponents to the Gospel will be ZEALOUS, but that does not make them RIGHT.
 - b. Opponents to the Gospel will seek to win you to THEIR POSITION, not to Christ.
 - c. Biblical proponents of the Gospel will be driven by their desire to see Christ formed in you.

Small Group Discussion Questions

1. It's easy to give up on people who started following Christ but have since charted a path away from Jesus. Reflect on one or two people like that in your life and consider if God may be calling you to re-engage with them. How can we pray for you?
2. We discussed changeless truths and changing methods. How do we confuse these two things? What is a method that you have used in the past that may need changing? Are you willing to change?
3. Paul's illness was used by God as a pathway for the Gospel to go forth (v. 13). Has God used an illness in your life to start new relationships, allow unbelievers to see you suffer with faith or to give you an opportunity to minister to your children? Are you willing to be sick (even to die) if God uses that sickness to make the Gospel move ahead into new territories?
4. Opponents to the Gospel seek to win people to themselves for their own pride. What are some examples of people trying to win others to "themselves" today? How can true believers resist their influence?
5. The motive of biblical proponents of the Gospel is to see Christ formed in growing believers. Who are you pouring into right now? Who are you praying and working for and teaching? How can we help you? How can we pray?