

SMALL GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

Watch the video summary of the **March 9, 2014 Sermon** (3.5 minutes), "Set Free By Christ." Please read the sermon passage (Galatians 5:1-12) together out loud.

Small Group Questions (Galatians 5:1-12)

Sermon Outline:

1. **Through our freedom in Christ we can distinguish between false and true teachings (vv 1-6).**
 - a. We must be able to make distinctions so that we uncover false teachings (vv. 1-4).
 1. When we accept some false teachings we begin to be alienated from Christ.
 2. Adding our work alongside of Christ's work is the beginning of "falling away" from grace.
 - b. We must be able to hold to and teach true teachings (vv 5-6). Wisdom makes distinctions.
2. **Through our freedom in Christ we can distinguish between false and true teachers (vv 7-12).**
 - a. Consider the source: Who are these teachers, how does their life match-up with Scripture?
 - b. Consider their effect: What is the long-term impact on the church?
 - c. Consider their results: What fruit is produced by their lives, presence and teaching?

Small Group Discussion Questions

1. False teachings take root because they "make sense," or "sound good," or make us "feel good." But in the end they weigh us down and begin to separate us from Christ and God's grace. Give an example of a belief that you once held but have since recognized to be false.
2. What distinctions did you develop which helped you identify a certain teaching as false? (For example, realizing that the doctrine of "God's love" does not mean that all people will be saved or that God will not judge sin. The distinction is that "love" is not overly tolerant).
3. What true teachings have you accepted that bring life to your soul? What specific doctrines truly encourage your heart, help you have peace and have increased your awe/love for God?
4. Teachings and teachers must be weighed against the teachings of the Bible and the authority of the Bible. We must examine the real thing (Bible) more than the counterfeits (false teachings). Are you in the Word enough to be growing in your knowledge and understanding of it? Discuss.
5. Eventually, every false teacher's fruit will be seen. This can be difficult when a "new" false teacher arises. Without throwing out too many names, what is your process for accepting or rejecting authors, teachers, online bloggers and other teachers? Have you ever been drawn to one initially but then rejected them after closer inspection? Discuss.