

# **“Are You Worthy of Being Imitated?”**

## **Galatians 4:12-20 September 20, 2020**

### **Galatians Series- Living the Gospel in the Power of the Spirit**

**Big Idea-** The gospel that Paul preached was received directly from Jesus. Anyone, including an angel from heaven, that contradicted the gospel of grace through faith in Jesus was to be eternally condemned. The Galatians, by their own personal experience, had come to faith and received the Holy Spirit through God’s grace without following the law first.

Therefore, the rest of their spiritual life should be lived by faith and the Holy Spirit and not be rooted in OT law keeping. Paul now moves on to prove this by showing the background of God’s covenant with Abraham prior to Moses. The Law came after God’s promise to Moses and was to last **until** Jesus arrived. Everyone who expresses faith have become heirs of God’s original promise. Paul moves from biblical and logical argument to personal friendship based on integrity and mutual love.

**Background Texts-** Founding of churches in Galatia- Acts 13:14-14:23; Paul was stoned and left for dead- Acts 14:20-21; Paul’s resume- **Philippians 3:1-11**; Imitate Paul- 1 Corinthians 4:16, 11:1; Philippians 3:17; 4:9; 1 Thessalonians 1:6; 2 Thess 3:7-9.

### **LESSON 1-** The plea to imitate Paul was based on biblical TRUTH

- A. The truth of the gospel was being freed from reliance on the LAW (Galatians 2:16; Freedom to observe- 1 Cor 9:19-23; Acts 21:15-26)
- B. The truth of the gospel supersedes all our WEAKNESSES (Galatians 4:13-15; 1 Corinthians 2:3; 2 Corinthians 10:10; 12:7)
- C. The truth of the gospel should bring in us HUMILITY (Galatians 4:16; Proverbs 12:1; 9:8; Galatians 1:10; John 12:43)
- D. The truth of the gospel has the goal of being made like JESUS (Galatians 4:19-20; 1 John 2:6; Romans 8:29; 2 Corinthians 3:18)

### ***Theological Application:***

- 1.** Paul was not “personally” injured by the Galatians actions.
- 2.** The power and grace of God does is not thwarted by person weakness.
- 3.** Paul took advantage of every opportunity even when not according to plan.
- 4.** Discipleship is about making others like you as you become like Jesus!

***Our Vision- Striving to be Disciples who make Disciples***