January 19, 2024 | Keeping Jesus in the Center
Marty Rietgraf, Discipleship Pastor | Galatians 2:1-21

SERMON NOTES

Biggest challenge of the early church?
Background to this passage:
First stream: PAUL

Second stream: PETER

Third stream: ANTIOCH AND BARNABAS
Challenge: (Acts 15:1, 5, Galatians 2:4-5)
Keeping Jesus in the center in 4 areas:
1.Jesus is to be the center of our FAITH.
(vs. 15-16)
2.Jesus is to be the center of our COMPASSION.
(v. 10)
" For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you though his poverty might become rich. " (2 Corinthians 8:9)
3. Jesus is to be the center of our RELATIONSHIPS.
(vs. 11-14)
4. Jesus is to be the center of our LIVES.
(vs. 17-21)
Q: How can a person be made right with God?
A: Only through faith in Jesus

GOING DEEPER

Take a moment to pray. Confess your need for the Holy Spirit's help in illuminating God's Word to you.

Read Galatians 2 and then walk through a few of the questions below. Be encouraged that the goal is not to cover every single question, but to go deeper with God.

What stands out to you in this passage?

Have you been in a faith community where it seemed that other conditions were added to faith in Jesus in order to be saved, and if so, what were they?

What do passages like Romans 4:23-25, Ephesians 2:8-9, and Hebrews 9:24-28 teach us about what is necessary for our salvation? Can you think of other passages?

Have you come to the point of trusting solely in Jesus for your salvation? If so, how did this happen for you?

The term 'justification' was most likely written first chronologically in the New Testament in Galatians 2:16. How would you define that term in your own words?

Have you ever been generous hoping to get points with God? What is to be our motivation for giving/sharing/showing compassion?

Are there any relationships with other Christians in your life where Jesus is absent? How can you take a step in showing the power of the gospel in those relationships?

Where does the motivation and power come from to live for God? Read Galatians 2:20. What stands out most in this verse for you today? Have you memorized Galatians 2:20? Would you share it with the group? Maybe your group can work on that together.

Work on your Q/A together:

Question: How can a person be made right with God?
Answer: Only through faith in Jesus.

UPCOMING

"Explore Hope" 4-week class | Sundays Feb 2, 9, 16 & 23 | RSVP online
Winter Blast Middle School Retreat | Feb. 7-9, 2025 | Register online