

Big Idea: Galatians is addressed to Gentile Christians who have been told they also need to follow the Torah (Old Testament Law), like Jews. Chapter 5 serves as a summary and end to Paul's argument against these Judaizers. The Law is all or nothing (you can't pick and choose a few, nor can you keep the whole law). Regardless, circumcision is no longer the sign of God's people. God's people are a people of faith, under grace, and by the Spirit. Christ has set us free from the Law, but also called us to live by the Spirit (which leads into chapter 6, next week).

I. Introduction: Review

Who were the Judaizers?

What is Legalism?

II. The Law: it's All or Nothing

Gal. 5:1-6

Why was circumcision not sufficient?

Gal 5:3

What was circumcision a sign of?

What value is circumcision now?

Gal 5:6

III. Extreme Statements

Gal. 5:7-12

How seriously does Paul take this challenge to the faith?

How does Paul's humor shine through in verse 12?

IV. Freedom in Christ

Gal. 5:13-15

If you are in Christ, what are you free *from*?

If you are in Christ, what are you free *to*?

V. Legalism vs. License

A. Are these extremes really opposites? How are they similar?

B. To which extreme do you lean?

C. Is moderation the answer? If not, what is the answer?