# FREE at LAST



### **SERIES OVERVIEW**

In this series, we are going to take a deep dive into the book of Galatians, a letter written by Paul to the Christians in Galatia. More than any other person, Paul shifted the focus of Christianity from the proclamation of Jesus to the proclamation about Jesus. He singlehandedly transformed Christianity from an exclusively Jewish faith to a faith that included both Jews and Gentiles. He made Christianity open to everyone, everywhere, at every time.

As we begin to study the book of Galatians, we will see that the theme of this book is "Free at Last!" Paul began his ministry to churches emphasizing the freedom Jesus Christ brings from sin, from the fear of death, and from trying to be good enough for God. No other book in the Bible explains why Christianity is completely, uniquely, and absolutely different from every other religious faith. Jesus offers freedom that no one else can, and that's the freedom Paul explains in Galatians.

**SERIES VERSES** 

Galatians 1:6-6:14

# PART 1: There is Only One Galatians 1:6-12

KEY POINTS	NOTES
1. The True Gospel Emphasizes the Grace of God Paul begins in Galatians 1:6 talking about how surprised he is that the people in the church of Galatia have so quickly turned away from the Gospel. Specifically, there were people known as Judaizers, which were Jews who had become Christians. But this group of people was teaching that in addition to accepting the Gospel, you had to become a Jew, be circumcised, obey the law, and keep all of the rules and regulations if you wanted to be a true Christian. They bought the lie that you have to be good enough for God, or God won't be good to you. (Sadly, many people still believe this lie.) The Judaizers taught that the love of God is not a gift that you receive, but a prize you have to earn.	
When you add the word "and" to grace, you have deserted the Gospel, because you're basically saying, "The grace of God is not enough." The Gospel reminds us that not only is the grace of God enough, but it is all you have and is all you will ever need. Everything has been done for us to be right with God. There is nothing more we need to do to experience His grace and His love other than receive it.	
2. The True Gospel Exalts the Son of God As Paul talks about the Gospel, he says that God has called us to, "live in the grace of Christ," (Galatians 1:6) but we should not allow other people, "to pervert the Gospel of Christ," (Galatians 1:7). The point Paul is making here is that the true Gospel revolves around Jesus. Without Jesus dying for us, being buried for us, and being raised for us, there is no Gospel.	
When you add anything to the grace of Christ, you are saying grace isn't powerful enough. When you add anything to the Gospel of Christ, you are saying the Gospel is not sufficient enough. When you add anything to Christ, you are saying Christ is not good enough. The true Gospel exalts the Son of God.	
3. The True Gospel Expresses the Heart of God Paul continues by explaining to the Galatians where the true Gospel comes from, saying, "I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the Gospel I preached is not of human origin. I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it; rather, I received it by revelation from Jesus Christ," (Galatians 1:11-12). The Gospel is not something a person made up. The Gospel is something God set down. As Charles Spurgeon said, "The Gospel is perfect in all of its parts and perfect as a whole. It is a crime to add to it, treason to alter it, and a felony to take from it."	
For the first several years after Jesus' resurrection the earliest Christians became known for how different they were from the world. What was it that made them so radically different? There is only one explanation. It was the story of the Gospel that they heard, that they believed, and that they preached. It is the only Gospel that turned the world upside down two-thousand years ago and the only one that can still do it today.	

# PART 1: There is Only One

Galatians 1:6-12

### QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- 1. Do you struggle with trying to be good enough for God, thinking you need to follow rules and regulations to be loved and accepted by Him? Where do you think that belief comes from?
- 2. How would you define grace?
- 3. Why do you think grace can sometimes be a difficult concept to grasp?

# NOTES

# PART 2: The Only Way To Live Galatians 2:20

OVERVIEW	NOTES
There is a phenomenal quote from the movie "Braveheart" that says, "Every man dies, but not every man truly lives." There is so much truth in this statement, because the vast majority of people who live on this earth will live and die in slavery and bondage – in bondage to lust, pornography, jealousy, anger, bitterness, pride, or arrogance. In Paul's letter to the Galatians, he talks about how to be free – free from sin, free from self, and free from shame. He explains that this kind of freedom can only be found in Christ, saying, "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me," (Galatians 2:20).	
KEY POINTS	
Simply put, Paul is saying the only way to live is to die, but when you die, you really live. In Galatians 2:20, we learn three things that, once believed and acted upon as if they are true, we will experience the only way to live.	
1. I Have Died to a Sinful Past Two people had to die in order for an unbeliever to become a believer. Jesus had to die for you, but then you have to die to you as well. This happens when you surrender your life to Christ. Everything you were, everything you used to be, everything in your past, every sin, every failure, every mistake, and every regret died with Jesus on the cross. The reason why all of that dies is because the old you died when you choose to become a follower of Jesus.	
2. I Walk in the Strongest Presence Take a close look at what Paul says in Galatians 2:20, "I no longer live, but Christ lives in me." Once you surrender your life to Jesus, the old you dies, but a new you is created and lives because Jesus now lives in you. You have to realize that the Christian life is not you living for Jesus; it is Jesus living in you. Once you begin following Jesus, you must believe that you are dead to a sinful past, and now you walk in the strongest presence. The Lord is with you everywhere you go. You don't have to face life alone, and you don't have to fight battles alone.	
3. I Live in the Securest Position Paul finishes this verse by saying, "The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me," (Galatians 2:20). Because we are human, we as Christ-followers still live in the flesh like unbelievers, but there is a difference. We live in the flesh, but we don't live by the flesh. We live by faith. You can be confident and secure in your Savior as you walk with Him because He has already done everything needed for you to have a relationship with your Heavenly Father.	

# PART 2: The Only Way To Live

Galatians 2:20

### QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- 1. Do you feel like you are living in bondage to something such as bitterness towards someone who has hurt you? The trap of pornography, drugs, and alcohol? The feeling that you never measure up?
- 2. If so, what is keeping you from accepting and living in the freedom you are offered in Christ?
- 3. What is one way you can continually remind yourself that you don't have to face life alone and that Jesus is with you wherever you go?

# NOTES

# PART 3: Start Strong, Finish Well Galatians 3:1-6

OVERVIEW	NOTES
The church was meant to be centered around the message that focused on three words: God, grace, and Gospel. The Gospel says everyone can have a relationship with God and be accepted by God because of his grace. Grace was provided by the death, burial, and resurrection of his son, Jesus. However, there were religious leaders in the early church who came in and wanted to add to the list rules, regulations, and restrictions. To this day, there is this battle going on between the relationship crowd and the religion crowd. In Paul's letter to the Galatians, he shares the revolutionary message that God wants to accept everyone into his family by grace and the only ticket needed is faith. Because of God, and the grace of God, and the Gospel of God, we are free from the shackles of legalism. We don't have to be good enough for God, because we can never be good enough for God. Jesus was good enough for all of us. Once we accept Jesus and his free gift of grace, through faith in Him, God completely and totally accepts us.	
KEY POINTS	
The way you avoid the shackles of legalism and breathe the fresh air of liberty that the Gospel brings is to learn and follow three simple things:	
1. We Look to the Son In his writing, Paul is being both a compassionate pastor and a wise counselor. He realizes there is always going to be a struggle in really believing that God accepts us just because of His grace, and it has nothing to do with how good we are. Paul preaches to the Galatians how Jesus had done everything necessary on the cross for them to be accepted by God, freeing them from this notion that somehow they had to be good enough for God, and now they are being tempted to go right back into the slavery of legalism and law keeping.	
The vast majority of this world has been convinced that they can earn their way to God, that they can work their way to God, and that if they keep enough rules, abide by enough regulations, effect enough restrictions, then God will accept them. There can only be one reason why God would not only allow Jesus to die on the cross, but would actually send Jesus to die on the cross. It is because you cannot earn your way to God. That is why it's so imperative we understand that the Gospel is not an invitation for you to do anything for God. It is a declaration of what God has done for you through His Son Jesus.	
2. We Live in the Spirit As Paul continues, he cuts right to the chase and asks the key question that the Galatians needed to answer: "I would like to learn just one thing from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by believing what you heard?" (Galatians 3:2). Paul is trying to make the point that the Spirit of God never bypasses the Son of God. The only way the Spirit of God will come to live within you is through you surrendering your life to Christ. It is not enough to just hear the Gospel with your ears. It is not enough to just believe the Gospel in your head. You must receive the Gospel in your heart. When you do that, you	

receive the Spirit of God, and He is the one who changes your life.

# PART 3: Start Strong, Finish Well Galatians 3:1-6

3. We Look to the Scripture  The Galatians were saying Jesus is not enough and God's grace is not enough for God to accept them. Instead, they insisted in performing, living up to a certain standards, and keeping the rules and regulations of the law. But Paul shuts down that kind of legalistic thinking by referring to the godfather of all Jews, Abraham. He says, "So also Abraham 'believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness," (Galatians 3:6).  Basically, Paul was reminding the legalists that God accepted Abraham	NOTES
despite him never having been circumcised, nor ever having kept the law because Abraham lived centuries before the law would be given to Israel through Moses. Do you know how Abraham was saved? By faith. Everyone who has ever come to God and been accepted by God has come by faith.	
God wants you to start strong and finish well. God started with you by grace. You started with Him by faith. God will finish with you by grace and you will finish with Him by faith. Then, you will start strong and you will finish well.	
QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER	
1. In what ways do you try to work your way to gain acceptance fr	rom God?
2. As you walk with Christ, do you find yourself focusing more of for you or what you do for Him?	n what Jesus has done
3. What is one verse or passage of Scripture you can begin to me that faith is all you need to be accepted by God?	morize to remind you
NOTES	

# PART 4: Losing Your Religion Galatians 3:10-14, 21-22

OVERVIEW	NOTES
Every religion is basically trying to answer the same two questions: 1) How do you relate to God?, and 2) How can you have a relationship with God? Not only do all religions ask the same two questions, but they all basically give the same answer – how you live before you die determines where you go after you die. Paul wrote the book of Galatians to show all religious people that if you want to be rightly related to God, you have to lose your religion. Surprisingly enough, focusing too much on being religious and trying to follow all of the rules and laws can actually keep you from ever finding God. Jesus did not come to introduce us to a new religion. He came to deliver us from religion so we could enter into a relationship with God.	
KEY POINTS	
1. The Law is a Curse, Not a Cure for Sin Paul makes it very clear that the law does not commend people who try to keep it, but rather it condemns people because they can't keep it. He says, "For all who rely on the works of the law are under a curse, as it is written: 'Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the Book of the Law," (Galatians 3:10). In other words, if you are going to perform your way to God, then you've got to meet His standard, not yours.	
One of the problems we have in understanding how God's law operates is we try to see the Law of God the way we see the Law of Humanity. A perfect law giver who has given a perfect law demands perfect obedience to that law. If you have broken one law, you may as well have broken every law.	
2. The Law is a Barrier, Not a Bridge to God Paul goes onto say, "Clearly no one who relies on the law is justified before God, because the righteous will live by faith," (Galatians 3:11). He's making the point that the law is not a bridge to God, it is a barrier to God. The law separates you from God because it causes you to focus more on your works than on your faith. We were given the law not so we can see how good we are, but how sinful we are. The law tells us what a godly life looks like and then shows us how ungodly we are because we don't keep it. We can't get to God through the law because the law doesn't draw you closer to God; it drives you further from Him when you are not able to keep it. Heavenly Father. So if God can be that patient with us, how much more should we be patient with the tough problems and difficult people that come our way.	
3. The Law is a Reference for, Not a Rival with Jesus While the law reminds us of our shortcomings and our inability to meet God's standard, it also refers us to the One who died for our shortcomings and met the standard for us, and that is Jesus. The only remedy for our faults, our failures, our foul ups, our mistakes, and our mess ups is redemption, not religion, not rules, not regulations, not restrictions, not righteousness, but redemption. The only way to find redemption is through a relationship with Jesus Christ.	

# PART 4: Losing Your Religion Galatians 3:10-14, 21-22

4. The Law is an Advocate for, Not an Addition to Faith We must realize that God only accepts us one way. It has nothing to do with our performance, our position, or our popularity. It's not a matter of what we do for Him. It is a matter of simply accepting by faith what He has done for us. The law always pointed to grace, not goodness. It always pointed to faith, not fulfillment. Because of that truth, you only have two choices to make when it comes to having a relationship with God: your goodness or God's grace; your religion or His redemption. Once you make these choices, lay down the law, and lose your religion, you will find everything you need at the cross of Jesus Christ.	NOTES
QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER	
1. Do you view the Law of God in the same way you view the Law	of Humanity? How so?
2. In what specific ways does Scripture highlight our sinfulness ar	nd ungodliness?
3. What is a practical way you can begin choosing to focus more than your own goodness?	e on God's grace rather
NOTES	

# PART 5: The Only Thing That Counts Galatians 5:1-6

OVERVIEW	NOTES
Whether we think it's fair or not, there is an increasing antipathy, apathy, and antagonism toward the church and modern Christianity unlike anything we've ever seen in our nation's history. A big part of it is our fault, and it is exactly why a man named Paul wrote the book of Galatians, because the church that had been taught the liberty that comes from faith in Jesus was being tempted to replace it with legalism that comes from trying to keep the law. This problem is still a major issue in the church today, because many Christians believe you have to add "do's and don'ts" to following Jesus if you want to be a true Christian. But that's simply not the case. When people walk into a true New Testament church, they ought to find two things: the God of grace and the grace of God. As believers, we must be about the only thing that counts so that unbelievers will see that we understand the only thing that counts.	
KEY POINTS	
1. Stand Firm for Grace Paul is wrapping up all he has been saying in four chapters into two sentences. "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery," (Galatians 5:1). He begins by reminding us that Jesus Christ did not come to this earth to establish another religion, to give us more rules, to add more regulations, or to burden us with more restrictions. He came for freedom. And not only did Jesus come to give us freedom, but He came to show us what real freedom is. Freedom is not the ability to do what I want to do; it is the power to do what I ought to do. We need to stand firm for grace in that power and freedom that Jesus gives.	
2. Stay Focused on Grace Paul continues his challenge to the Galatians saying, "Mark my words! I, Paul, tell you that if you let yourselves be circumcised, Christ will be of no value to you at all," (Galatians 5:2). This is such a strong warning. Back then Paul was basically saying, "You can choose circumcision or Christ." Today we would say, "You can choose religion or redemption, you can choose goodness or grace, or you can choose rules or relationship, but you can't choose both." Once you add anything to Jesus, you lose the value of all that He did for you by His death, burial and resurrection.	
3. Show Faithfulness to Grace Even though God doesn't expect perfection from us, He does demand righteousness. But only the Holy Spirit living in us can make us righteous, and we will never be totally righteous until we get to heaven. Righteousness is not something we work for; it is something we wait for, just as Paul points out. "For through the Spirit we eagerly await by faith the righteousness for which we hope. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love"	

(Galatians 5:5-6).

# PART 5: The Only Thing That Counts Galatians 5:1-6

# PART 6: Tender Loving Care Galatians 6:1-2

OVERVIEW	NOTES
The book of Galatians was written to show how we are not only free from having to keep rules and regulations to be right to God, but we are also free to love others who either don't know God and need to come to God, or they have come to God but have fallen away. How do we treat people who are broken down, burdened down, and breaking down? How do we make sure as it has been famously said, "We don't become a museum for saints; we become a hospital for those who are sinning and suffering." The scripture gives us three pieces of advice.	
KEY POINTS	
1. We Are to Gladly Restore Burdened Believers When it comes to helping believers caught in sin, Paul encourages us to help with the process of restoration. "Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently" (Galatians 6:1). Think about it this way. If someone breaks their leg, lecturing them, preaching at them, or rebuking them for not paying attention won't do them any good. But setting the bone will. We are to restore the broken believer. We are to help them get back on their feet, and there is nothing more like Jesus than a biblical bone setting.	
Paul is telling us that when a believer is burdened by sin, we are to gladly restore that brother. Do you know what he means by this? When you know that a believer is caught in a sin, when you know they are far away from God, when you know they are on the wrong path, if the first thing that comes to your mind is condemnation, you are not spiritual. If the first thing that even comes to your mind is correction, you are not truly spiritual. The emotion you should feel is compassion.	
2. We Are to Gently Reclaim Burdened Believers Whenever we realize that a believer is away from God and he is caught in a sin, Paul tells us that not only are we to take our doctor's bag to his house but reminds us that our bedside manner is extremely important. He tells us not just what to do, but that we are to honestly and lovingly confront that believer, and he tells us how to do it: "restore that person gently" (Galatians 6:1). One of the biggest problems the church has today is that we shoot our own wounded. That is why people dealing with sin in their life don't come back to church.	
In addition to this problem, we also have a tendency to see only the best in ourselves and the worst in everyone else. That is why we need to restore burdened believers not just gently, but humbly. Paul encourages the Galatians to do the same, saying, "But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted," (Galatians 6:1). Any sin a believer can fall into is a sin every believer can fall into You don't want to approach a hurting person with a pointed finger but	

rather with a helping hand.

# PART 6: Tender Loving Care Galatians 6:1-2

3. We Are to Graciously Rebuild Burdened Believers In verse 2, Paul shifts gears from one type of burden to another, "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way, you will fulfill the law of Christ," (Galatians 6:2). The assumption behind this verse is that we all have burdens, and God never intends for us to carry those burdens alone. Did you know that one of the ways God helps us bear our burdens is through the believers He has brought into our life? One of the responsibilities of family members is to bear each other's burdens. When you are bearing burdens, you are really sharing blessings. No believer is ever a burden to another believer. If you refuse to allow others to share your burden, you are robbing them of the blessing of bearing your burden. Let us be a body of believers who show tender loving care to the burdened believers around us.	NOTES
QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER	
1. Can you think of a time when you approached a burdened believe instead of compassion? What can you learn from that experience?	
2. Is there someone in your life who is caught in sin or is walking f you show them love and kindness and help them get back on their	
3. Are you trying to carry a burden alone? What is a way you can fellow believers and allow them the blessing of carrying your burden.	
NOTES	

# PART 7: Don't Waste Your Life

Galatians 6:7-10

OVERVIEW	NOTES
If I could give one piece of advice to every human being that is born as they begin their life and I knew they would take it, it would be in four words – "don't waste your life." It's not that there is anything wrong with retirement or having nice things and enjoying life. The point is we shouldn't spend our life majoring on those things or those activities. We should spend our life sowing, serving, and sharing. Paul urged the church in Galatia to not waste their lives as well as he was closing out a letter he wrote to them. Keep in mind the words you are about to read were written by a man who was in prison many times, beaten, stoned, shipwrecked, went many times without food or shelter, was robbed and wound up being beheaded. He endured all of it, because he was determined not to waste his life. He gives some tremendous advice which will show you how to be sure you live not a wasted life, but a worthwhile life.	
KEY POINTS	
1. Don't Be Deceived: You Will Reap What You Sow Paul begins with a simple analogy in reference to agriculture, "Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A mean reaps what he sows," (Galatians 6:7). There are people everywhere who think they can lie, cheat, steal or kill without any consequences, who truly believe they can get away with it. There is a simple reason why you can't get away with it – nobody ever has, and nobody ever will, and that is because Paul says God is not mocked. God will make sure you reap what you sow. You might can fool all people some of the time, and maybe you can fool some people all of the time. But you can't fool God anytime.	
It's also important to remember that you reap more than you sow, and you reap later than you sow. You might be tempted to think if you get away with something today, you will get away with it tomorrow. But that's not true. There are people who live all kinds of lifestyles that are wrong, wicked, ungodly and yet they seem to be emotionally and psychologically stable, physically healthy, and in many cases extremely wealthy. Don't be discouraged. They will reap what they sow in due time, and so will you as you remain faithful to God.	
2. Don't Be Discouraged: You Will Be Rewarded When You Serve Now Paul gives us a great word of encouragement that has to be true, because the law of the harvest is never broken. "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up," (Galatians 6:9). One of the tests of spiritual maturity is if you are willing to keep walking in the dark when you don't see the light. You are willing to continue to stand when you want to sit. You are willing to stay when you want to leave. You are willing to reenlist when you want to quit. That would only happen if you believe that at the proper time you will reap a harvest.	

# PART 7: Don't Waste Your Life

Galatians 6:7-10

It is not that you may reap a harvest, or you might reap a harvest. It is not	NOTES
even if you could reap a harvest or you should reap a harvest. God Himself promises you will reap a harvest. But you must remember the harvest doesn't come on your clock, it comes on God's. There is a return on the investment of serving. Keep serving. Keep doing good. Keep working for God, because you will reap what you sow.	
3. Don't Be Disinterested: You Will Rejoice When You Share Paul has given us fantastic advice on how to live a life worth living. He ties it up with a bow saying, "Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers," (Galatians 6:10). Every day life gives us opportunities to sow good seeds, to serve other people, and to share with the hurting. Every time you get the opportunity to do something good for somebody else, do something good for somebody else! You will have finally arrived in life when you realize the greatest blessings are not when someone does something good for you, but when you do good for someone else.	
God has given all of us gifts and abilities. But if you are not taking your gifts and abilities in some way and serving the church, you are living a big part of a wasted life. Jesus himself said, "I didn't come to be served. I came to serve." Jesus didn't save you to be served; he saved you to serve. Don't waste your life. Don't ever quit serving the Lord. Don't ever quit sowing the seeds. Don't ever quit sharing the good, and you will know that your life wasn't wasted when you hear these words at the end of your life, "Well done good and faithful servant."	
QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER	
1. What is an example of a time where you reaped what you sowed be an encouragement to you as you are currently sowing seeds of fair God now but are still waiting to harvest?	_
2. When was the last time you were presented with an opportunity t did you respond? Do you wish you had responded differently?	to serve someone else? How
3. What is a gift God has given you that you can be using to help others so the	nat you do not waste your life?
NOTES	

# **PART 8: Front and Center**

Galatians 6:14

OVERVIEW	NOTES
As we conclude our series on Galatians, let's remember how Paul has emphasized from beginning to end how cross of Jesus that delivers us from the burden of sin and the bondage of religion. While the entire world wanted to the take the focus off of the cross, Paul wanted to put it front and center. So how do we follow Paul's lead? Well, he gives us three tremendous reasons why all of our focus should be solely on the cross of Jesus Christ.	
KEY POINTS	
1. We Should Boast About the Person Who Died on the Cross At the time of Jesus' death, the cross was a despicable instrument of death, one that was rarely even spoken about. When Paul tells us that we should boast in the cross, it's not just any cross he's talking about. He says, "May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ" (Galatians 6:14).	
It wasn't the cross that captivated Paul; it was the person who died on the cross that caught his attention. Unlike other religions whose symbols point to a religion or an ideology, the symbol of Christianity, the cross, points to a person. It doesn't point to a belief you hold in your head, but to a Lord and Savior that you carry in your heart.	
2. We Should Boast About the Purpose Demonstrated in the Cross One of the disciples named Peter who witnessed the crucifixion described the intentionality behind Jesus' death. He said, "This man was handed over to you by God's deliberate plan and foreknowledge" (Acts 2:23). God had a plan and a purpose in mind when He sent His Son to die on the cross. This sacrifice was His way of demonstrating real love to all of humanity.	
Another disciple, John, wrote these words about God's sacrificial love, "This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins," (1 John 4:10). Jesus did not die on the cross without a purpose. He purposefully died so that we could experience the love of His Father forever.	
3. We Should Boast About the Power Delivered by the Cross There is power given to every person who comes to the cross and places their faith in the One who died on the cross. Jesus died and resurrected to forever conquer sin and death on our behalf. Because of the cross, we can overcome the flaws of this world. We can overcome the power of sin. We can escape the trap of temptation and even resist the attacks of the devil himself.	
Put the cross front and center, because there is something about the cross that both kills and gives life. It kills the joy of sin. It kills the thrill of temptation. It kills the pleasure of doing wrong, and, at the same time, it gives life to the desire to be holy, godly, and righteous. The cross is what it's all about. It is and always should be our main focus, because the only hope for this world is	

what happened at the cross.

### **PART 8: Front and Center**

Galatians 6:14

### QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- 1. What does it look like practically to boast in the cross of Jesus Christ, as Paul says in Galatians 6:14?
- 2. Is there a struggle or sin that is currently overpowering you? What steps can you take to begin living in the power that Jesus died on the cross to give you?
- 3. If there was a greater purpose behind the worst day in all of history (Jesus' crucifixion), do you believe God also has a greater purpose for the difficulties and trials you're currently walking through?

# NOTES





# TRAVEL WITH

# **JAMES MERRITT**

TO THE GREEK ISLES



# **GREECE TOUR**

### **SPRING 2020**

I would like to invite you in joining me on this incredible journey of retracing the footsteps of the Apostle Paul. This amazing trip will enable us to experience Philippi, Thessaloniki, Berea, Athens, Corinth, Crete, Patmos, and Ephesus. Together we will step into Bible days and walk alongside of Paul. The Holy Scriptures will come to life in unimaginable ways. I promise this will not only be a trip of a lifetime, but a life changing experience for all of us!

in Christ, James and Teresa Merritt