

Our Message vs. Old Message - Freedom April 23, 2023

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For you have heard of my former conduct in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and *tried to* destroy it. Galatians 1:13 NKJV

And I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries in my own nation, being more exceedingly zealous for the traditions of my fathers. **Galatians 1:14 NKJV**

But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb and called *me* through His grace, **Galatians 1:15 NKJV**

to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood, **Galatians 1:16 NKJV**

nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those *who were* apostles before me; but I went to Arabia, and returned again to Damascus. **Galatians 1:17 NKJV**

Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and remained with him fifteen days. **Galatians 1:18 NKJV**

But I saw none of the other apostles except James, the Lord's brother. Galatians 1:19 NKJV

(Now *concerning* the things which I write to you, indeed, before God, I do not lie.) **Galatians 1:20 NKJV**

Has God changed your message to His message?

Afterward I went into the regions of Syria and Cilicia. Galatians 1:21 NKJV

And I was unknown by face to the churches of Judea which were in Christ. Galatians 1:22 NKJV

But they were hearing only, "He who formerly persecuted us now preaches the faith which he once *tried to* destroy." **Galatians 1:23 NKJV**

And they glorified God in me. Galatians 1:24 NKJV

Then after fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, and also took Titus with *me*. **Galatians 2:1 NKJV**

And I went up by revelation, and communicated to them that gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, but privately to those who were of reputation, lest by any means I might run, or had run, in vain.

Galatians 2:2 NKJV

Yet not even Titus who *was* with me, being a Greek, was compelled to be circumcised. **Galatians 2:3 NKJV**

And this occurred because of false brethren secretly brought in (who came in by stealth to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage), **Galatians 2:4 NKJV**

to whom we did not yield submission even for an hour, that the truth of the gospel might continue with you. **Galatians 2:5 NKJV**

What are you doing with God's message?

This Week's New Testament+ reading plan:

- 1. 1 Peter 1
- 2. 1 Peter 2
- 3. 1 Peter 3
- 4. 1 Peter 4
- 5. 1 Peter 5
- 6. Leviticus 19
- 7. Prayer & Reflection

NURSERY

GOD MADE ANIMALS



CREATION (PART 1)

In this series we'll be learning that God made all of the animals! When your kid encounters a cat or dog at home, animals at the zoo, or animals in your neighborhood take that opportunity to help him/her see God's majesty and creativity! Enjoy this time of wonder and exploration with your toddler!

Memory Verse: God made the animals. Genesis 1:25 (adapted for toddlers)

Heart of the Lesson: God Made the Creatures of the Sky

GKJR

HE REALLY IS ALIVE!



EASTER AND THE EARLY CHURCH

What an exciting season! From Palm Sunday to the death and resurrection of Jesus to the start of the church at Pentecost we see the wonderful plan of God unfold. Thank you Jesus that you died and rose again so we can be forever friends again!

Memory Verse: For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." John 3:16

Heart of the Lesson: Pentecost – Tell everyone about Jesus Acts 2

Parent Connect: Today we made a book about the Pentecost and how Jesus sent His friends to tell everyone about Jesus! Learning different languages helps us talk to everyone about Jesus! Use the QR code to learn ways to say 'hello' in different languages.

ELEMENTARY

PRAYER AND PICKLEBALL



LEARNING HABITS OF PRAYER

Sometimes prayer can seem boring and monotonous. In our series, Prayer and Pickleball, we invite kids into a vibrant relationship with Jesus through prayer. We will teach them how to grow their prayer life through things like listening to the Holy Spirit, being honest with God, and keeping track of how God is actively working in their lives through written prayers.

Memory Verse: If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." – Romans 10:9

Heart of the Lesson: Own Your Mistakes: God wants us to be real with Him when we pray. - Matthew 11:28-30

Parent Connect: Ask God to show you in your heart where you've sinned against Him. Share with other and read 1 John 1:9

GOT FRUIT? GOD'S SPIRIT PRODUCES GOD'S FRUIT



God's Spirit produces God's fruit. What are you rooted in? How does the character of Jesus grow in you? In this 3-week series, we're going to look at the Fruit of the Spirit and see how Jesus wants us to stay connected to Him to produce good fruit in our lives.

Memory Verse: But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things! Galatians 5:22-23

Heart of the Lesson: Patience, Kindness, Goodness - James 5:7-8, Ephesians 4:31-32, Titus 3:3-7, Mark 10:18, Psalm 145:8-9

Parent Connect: How can you see patience, kindness, and goodness in the character of God? How does being rooted in God lead to the fruit of patience, kindness, and goodness in you?

SPECIAL NEEDS ADULTS

FREEDOM

What does it mean to have freedom in Jesus?

We have true freedom in Jesus! But while we have true freedom, we're tempted to make ourselves happy in what the world offers. In this series, we're looking at the book of Galatians to remember how amazing and complete our freedom in Jesus truly is!

Memory Verse: Galatians 5:1 (NIRV) Christ has set us free to enjoy our freedom. So remain strong in the faith. Don't let the chains of slavery hold you again.

Heart of the Lesson: My life is changed by the Good News of Jesus! (Galatians 1:13-2:5)

Parent Connect:

- · Where can we find the true good news?
- How did Paul defend the good news that he preached?
- How can we know that we are following the true good news?
- What do we need to do with the good news when we know it?