TRUTH WARS: 500 YEARS AND COUNTING!

October 7 & 8, 2017   **Week 3: May the Faith Be with You David Brickner, Executive Director of Jews for Jesus**

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SMALL GROUP Q'S

Personal Life:
1. In your own words, try to describe or define the Biblical idea of "faith." What does it mean? What does it look like in relation to Christ? And how does it apply to daily life?

Ponderings:
2. Galatians 3:1-14 is one of the clearest and most powerful passages declaring the pillar of "Faith Alone" for both salvation and Christian living. Read it as a group and discuss the following thoughts and questions.

   - How have you found yourself struggling like the "foolish Galatians" (vs. 1), striving to grow in your faith using law and human effort instead of relying upon the Spirit by faith? Explain…

   - How is Abraham the premier Old Testament example of faith-based righteousness? How is faith-based righteousness different than works-based righteousness?

   - Verse 10 says that "All who rely on observing the law are under a curse." This is true for those who trust in their good works to merit salvation, but it can also be cancerous to the spiritual growth of those who *have* trusted in Christ alone for salvation, yet continue to relate to God through a law-based mentality. Why do you think that relating to God on the basis of one's own merit is something Paul so vehemently wars against in his writings?

   - God wants all of His children to be living in greater outward conformity to the inward character of Christ. How does "faith alone" govern this entire process as opposed to a works-based approach to discipleship?

Promptings:
3. Are there areas in your life by which you are relying upon your own resources for your spiritual growth rather than depending on the resources of Jesus alone? If so, are you willing to share one or more of those with your group, and ask God to lead you into a truly "grace through faith" lifestyle…whatever that might look like for you?

4. Close your group time in prayer for one another…