



**Jeremy White, Lead Pastor
Valley Church**

**September 15 & 16, 2018
Part 1: The Real Deal (Galatians 1)**

INTRODUCTION:

Galatians 2:20 *"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."* (NIV)

GALATIANS 1: THE REAL GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST...

1. ...is for _____ (1:1-5)

Judaizers: A zealous group of religious people who were trying to convince early Christians that faith in Jesus wasn't enough – and that they must adhere to the Hebrew covenant of circumcision, among other things, in order to be certain they were in right relationship with God.

2. ...is _____ (1:6-10)

"Enter through the narrow gate..." (Matt. 7:13-14)

"I am the way, the truth and the life..." (John 14:6)

Questions about the claims of Jesus Christ? Check out apologetics315.com.

3. ...is _____ (1:11-24)

(see Matthew 23:2-4, 13, 15)

THE BIG IDEA:

"Jesus-plus" theology is found in countless forms in religious communities today and must be challenged by the true Gospel.

SMALL GROUP Q'S:

Personal Life:

1. Over the past week, have you been “filled with the Spirit” in a tangible way that you can share with the group? If so, please explain...
2. Based upon what you can remember from the weekend message, what do you hope to gain most from our journey through the Book of Galatians?

Ponderings:

3. Review **Galatians 1:6-10** as a group, and then discuss the following thoughts and questions:
 - Paul's disgust is centered on the fact that people were “throwing (them) into confusion and (were) trying to pervert the gospel of Christ” (vs. 7). In what way(s) are people today confused about the Gospel? Try to be specific and think beyond the “obvious.”
 - Even though Paul's thoughts here are forever preserved as inspired Scripture, does his choice of words shock you in any way? Discuss...
4. It seems clear from Paul's words that he believed the Gospel of grace is worth defending – even living and dying for. Would you agree with him? And if so, in what sense are you a defender (or to put it more positively, an “advancer”) of the Gospel of grace? Discuss...
5. Of the three major points highlighted in the weekend message, which do you think the modern church most needs reminding of and why?
 - That the Gospel is for EVERYBODY (confronting elitism)
 - That the Gospel is EXCLUSIVE (confronting pluralism)
 - That the Gospel is EXTREME (confronting legalism)
6. Being as honest as possible, do you have trouble resting in the all-sufficient grace of Christ's completed work on the cross? Do you live feeling as though you “owe God something” or that you'd “better serve Him or else...”? Explain...

Promptings:

7. What act(s) of grace can you and/or your small group participate in this Fall/Winter as the holiday season approaches? Close by asking God to lead you into making a significant difference in someone's life this season...