

## How to Live in Gospel Joy

May 3, 2020

Pastor Mark Turner

Galatians 2:11-3:9

Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)

**How did you first become a Christian?** Paul asked in Gal 3:2-3

- by your hard work?
- or by faith in God's grace to you through Christ? Eph 2:8-9
  
- Problem - forgetting the glorious truth of God's grace Gal 3:1-3
  - Never forget - we get God's Spirit through faith, not as reward for works
  - We so quickly revert to "our works" to maintain our standing
  - We look down on those who "don't measure up"
  - We end up living like slaves rather than joyful sons!
  - Our standing is by faith alone in Christ alone by grace alone Eph 1:4-6
  
- We lose our joy when we use religious duty to impress others or self
  - Peter - Gal 2:12 wanted to impress the "in-crowd"
  - think of things we do out of guilt or seeking to impress others...
  - Some have low capacity for service because it has become a burden
  - Jesus Mt 11:28-30 "my yoke is easy"
  
- We lose our joy when we use religious duty to control sin
  - Law can't control sin - Gal 2:17
  - Our joy comes by faith, not keeping the law Gal 3:9
  - Now we live to God Gal 2:19 - to please daddy!
  
- SO, what is the answer to keeping JOY?
  - Remember the Gospel truth that we are justified by faith alone in what Christ has done
  - Remember to not fall back to the lie that we can improve our standing by what we do - we are accepted in the Beloved Gal 2:16; Eph 1:6
  - Does that mean we no longer obey the law? NO
    - Jesus : Jn 14:15
    - John : 1 Jn 2:4
  - We died to law as a way of being accepted by God Gal 2:19
  
- So How do I live for God in the Power & Purpose of the Gospel?
  - Live for God out of sheer gratitude for His grace to you! V19
  - Live in the tension of Gal 2:20-21
    - I no longer live - Christ is my righteousness, not my works
    - the life I live - I'm free to now live as originally created!
  
- Live in the JOY of the Gospel:
  - When you fail – confess your sins (1 Jn 1:9) – and thank God you are accepted in Christ's righteousness.
  - Ask God for strength of His Spirit to live for His glory to make Him proud!

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