

How to Keep Living in Gospel Joy

May 10, 2020
Galatians 3:1-9

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

- We are saved by believing in Christ's work on our behalf
- We grow in sanctification by believing in Christ's work on our behalf
 "We do not begin by faith in Christ's works and then keep our salvation and grow by our own works!"
- Gospel Key - What Christ did for us on the cross, not what we do! 3:1
 - Gospel power is what Christ did for us
 - Jesus' work on our behalf is basis of our faith: 1 Thes 1:4-5
 - Gospel is more than just historical fact, but truth with implication! Jms 2:19
 - Faith is working when the Gospel facts become personal, not factoids!
- Never Forget the Power of the Gospel : what Christ did!
 - v2&3: asked how saved by works or hearing with faith (believing)?
 - God gives Spirit: we believe and then we grow by Spirit v3
 - God uses Word & Spirit to work in us: Jn 3:5; 1 Pet 1:23; Jms 1:18; Rom 10:17
- We often foolishly try to revert to our own will power & strength to grow
 - Remember, just as you were saved by believing the Gospel, you also grow by applying the gospel to every area of life!
- Making it Real:
 - We can't stop sinning by trying harder because that is merely resolving to rely on our own efforts by keeping a law. (Romans 2)
 - The answer to growing in Christ is vividly remembering the Gospel truths of Christ's saving work and who we are IN HIM!
- Applying This Truth: Anger
 - Don't say, "I have an anger problem. God please remove it, give me the power to conquer it."
 - INSTEAD: ask what has become my functional savior (what replaced Christ?)
 - God is GREAT, so I don't have to be in control : Psa 145:3
 - If you are angry and unforgiving, what is it that you think you need so much that you are willing to hurt others? What do you think you must have in order to feel complete, to be a worthy person?
 - Are you worshiping other's approval and get angry when you don't get it?
 - When your comfort, approval or ability to control things gets blocked do you get angry?
 - Remember: answer is not to try harder to control your anger...
 - Look instead to the Gospel - rejoice in Christ's finished work on your behalf. Remember only God is Great, Glorious, Good and Gracious... only He can satisfy! {Jms 1:20; Gal 5:22-23}

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