

## Gospel Ministry as A Family

June 21, 2020

Pastor Mark Turner

Galatians 4:12-20

Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)

- Paul shows us that believers are adopted:
  - By Christ's work we are redeemed and adopted as sons Gal 4:4-5
  - By the Spirit we experience what it means to be a son Gal 4:6-7
  - So What? Paul shows what Gospel ministry looks like: Gal 4:12-20

### Gospel Ministry is Culturally Flexible 12

- 'I have become as you are'
- Paul was able to come and live with Galatians because he knew his identity was in Christ, not the Jewish law or culture
- Judaizers wanted to make Galatians 'like them'
- Paul even allowed Galatians to minister to his needs 14-15

### Gospel Ministry is Modeled 12

- 'become as I am'
- Paul encouraged Galatians to copy his Gospel life
- By living life WITH Galatians they saw his real Gospel self
- Do your relationships point others to Christ or self? Gal 2:20; 6:14

### Gospel Ministry looks for Opportunities in Hardship 13-15

- Paul was 'brought' to Galatia by his malady
- Humbling, given by God 2 Cor 12:7-10
  - God allowed malady to accomplish God's purposes
  - Suffering causes us to remember God's will & purposes 1 Pet 4:1-2
  - Ministry often doesn't happen according to our human plans
- John Piper: "We waster our \_\_\_\_\_ (cancer) if: *Don't Waste Your Cancer*
  - don't hear in our own groanings the hope-filled labor pains of a fallen world
  - do not believe it is designed for us by God
  - we believe it is a curse and not a gift
  - if we seek comfort from our odds rather than from God
  - if we refuse to think about death
  - if we think 'beating' cancer means staying alive rather than cherishing Christ
  - if we spend too much time reading about cancer and not enough time reading about God
  - if we let it drive us into solitude instead of deepen our relationships with manifest affection
  - if we grieve as those who have no hope
  - if we treat sin as casually as before
  - if we fail to use it as a means of witness to the truth and glory of Christ

### Ministry Approach & Ultimate Goal of the Gospel

- Judaizers: Join our Cause. V17 'become like us', 'do this'
- "Christ formed in you!" become like Christ. Remember Christ is your righteousness & hope, not your efforts. Live like family!

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