

## Finding Joy in Galatians

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Galatians 6:6-10

Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)

### The Joy of Scripture Alone

- We have God's sure Word – the Bible, the Gospel
- There is no other Gospel Gal 1:6-9
- Beware of other gospels - Gal 1:11
- Only trust God's Holy Word, not men or tradition 2 Tim 3:16-17

### The Joy of Knowing God's Approval

- Rediscover the joy of faith alone in Christ alone!
- The Gospel: Gal 2:15-16 we are justified by faith in Christ!
- We lose joy when we use religious duty to impress others or control sin

### The Joy of Living by Faith

- Going back under law is a burden Gal 3:3
- Remember the Righteous shall live by faith Gal 3:11

### The Joy of Being Adopted

- Don't live life as a slave, you've been set free
- Live your life as a son, an heir – because of Jesus!
- Remember the 4 questions of Fruit to Root:
  - Who is God?
  - What has God done?
  - Who am I in light of God's Work?
  - How should I then live in light of who I am?

### Three Ways to Approach Issues of Life

Religion (moralism) - we are acceptable to God by what I do

Irreligion (relativism) – we determine what is right, God is loving and accepts us as we are

Gospel – we are sinners, but God loves us because of Christ's work and by faith we are counted as sons with full rights and privileges!

- Paul has shown us that Gospel thinking is the key to living for God's glory

### Truth Applied:

Quiet Time - Having a daily time with God in His Word is a good thing clearly taught in God's Word. {1 Pt 2:2-3; Ps 5:3; 119:103; Rm 12:2; Mt 6:5-7; 2 Tim 3:16-17}.

Moralism - makes a relationship with God into a burdensome task to please God or earn merit in His eyes.

Relativism - God is love and why bother since the word only shows me how to live like Jesus and God is already loving and welcoming.

Gospel - I get to spend time with my Gracious Father and understand His love and mercy even better each day!

Anxious about Family - we live in a broken and fallen world, family relationships are not easy.

Moralism - often makes relationships into a 'blame-game'. This is because a moralist is traumatized by criticism that is too severe and they seek to maintain a self-image as a "good person" by blaming others. Legalists often see the procuring of love as the way to "earn our salvation" and convince ourselves that we are worthy persons. The world calls this "co-dependency" which is a form of self-salvation through the needing of others people or needing people to need you (earning merit by saving others).

Relativism - reduces the love of relationships to a negotiated partnership for mutual benefit. I will relate to you as long as it is not costing me anything. So without the Gospel, we are left with selfishly using others or being selfishly used by others.

Gospel - in contrast the Gospel leads us to a Godly love which involves sacrifice and commitment, but not out of a need to convince ourselves or others that we are good or acceptable. The power of God's Spirit in us means we can love others even when it is hard. We can lovingly confront with the hope of the gospel and yet stay with a person even when it doesn't benefit us.

Struggle with Anger - do you struggle with anger and bitterness?

Moralism - approaches anger and our passions in response to difficult situations by telling us to control our passions out of fear of punishment. But this denies our humanity and our emotions. There is a time for righteous anger.

Relativism - tells us that we should express ourselves and find out what is right for us. But that is an emotional based approach.

Gospel - The gospel acknowledges that emotions are God-given. Anger can be God-given but because we are fallen we need to see the purpose of our anger.

- Paul teaches Titus 2:11–13 . We are to deny ungodliness and our worldly passions (anger for our glory) and instead be self-controlled and live godly lives.
- By examining the put-off and put-ons in Scripture we learn: Eph 4:31–32 .
- Put practically – because of the Gospel – our identity in Christ – I am a son of the Living God by Christ's work... I am to identify my anger, my bitterness and wrath and clamor... all those things that come when I LIVE FOR SELF and I am to put them AWAY! Instead, because of my identity in Christ, I am to respond in the power of the Gospel: 32 Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.
- TWO simple verses to help me apply the Gospel in my life:
  - God's word tells me that HUMAN anger, my anger when it is about my comfort or my glory it doesn't bring about the righteous life that God desires for me.  
*James 1:20*
  - God's word also reminds me that if I am a believer then I'm a blood bought child of God and I can trust Him in this situation: *1 Cor 6:19–20*