



## ICE BREAKER

Have a train and 2-3 tracks ready! You can also make this up with items from your pantry – use a Jell-o box for the train and lasagna noodles for the tracks! Be creative! Let your kids know we are using these for our discussion!



## READ

Galatians 2:15-21

We are justified by the atoning work of Christ Jesus alone, not by our works or adherence to The Law.



## TALK

- Let's describe in our own words what is happening.
- The Law can be very confusing and John Piper used a very good, visual representation in one of his sermons in 1983 and it is most definitely worth revisiting and discussing with your kids! See below and use the props mentioned in the ice breaker....

"God gave the law originally as a railroad track to guide Israel's obedience. The engine that was supposed to pull a person along the track was God's grace, the power of the Spirit. And the coupling between our car and the engine was faith, so that in the Old Testament, like the New Testament, salvation was by grace, through faith, along the track of obedience (or sanctification).

...The Pharisees, and many other Jews with them (as well as many people today), did an amazing thing. They took the railroad track—rails, ties, nails, and all—lifted it up on end, leaned it against the door of heaven, and turned it into a ladder to climb. This is the essence of legalism: Making the law into a long list of steps which we use to demonstrate our moral fitness to attain heaven. While the track is on the ground, some of the ceremonial ties could be pulled out from under the rails without ruining the track. But as a ladder, every rung is crucial, or you may not be able to climb the next

This ladder is what Paul tore down." (John Piper)



## BACKGROUND

This passage of Scripture opens with Paul reminding Peter that they were once both raised "law-following" Jews and not "law-neglecting" Gentiles (sinner is used narrowly), but it is the Gospel that unifies them. He goes on to remind Peter that they are not saved based on their Jewish roots nor adherence to the Law, but they are saved by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone.



## NEW WORD TO LEARN

**JUSTIFICATION**— in the book of Galatians, Paul uses the word “justify” in a legal sense meaning “to put in a right/just position before a judge” or “to declare to be innocent.” The judge is God. Justification is the event that means to be put in a right relationship with God and to stand innocent before Him.

**THE LAW** — the Mosaic Law, both ceremonial and moral aspects. The Law outlines the requirements for living as a Jew as well as the atonement requirements for sin, which is death. Followers of Christ are free from the requirements of the Law because Christ served as the perfect, spotless Lamb for the penalty of our sin.

**FAITH** - receives the gift of Christ’s perfect righteousness as their own because of the forgiveness through His atonement.



## WEEK FIVE

### BACKGROUND

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## PRAY

That your children would receive the Gospel.



# ICE BREAKER

What things does a Christian do? (Kids may respond with they go to church, they sing hymns, they read their Bible, etc).



# READ

Galatians 3:1-9

We cannot do anything to save ourselves. Salvation comes through faith in Jesus Christ because of His work on the Cross.

# TALK



- Let's describe in our own words what is happening.
- Let's go back to our ice breaker question. The Galatians believed that they had to do certain tasks plus the Gospel to be saved. They were "enchanted or bewitched" with this gospel. What things do you think you have to do be saved? If your child(ren) answer anything other than believing in the Gospel, this is a great time to share the Gospel with them. We cannot earn our salvation. The world and other religions want us to believe that we have to work "to be good" or to be saved, but it is only by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone that we are saved.
- Parents: Share a time or times when you have forgotten the freedom of the Gospel and have felt guilty for not reading your Bible enough or missing church, etc. Use this as an opportunity to remind your kids that we do those things because our desire to know Him is so great, but doing those things isn't what saves us.



# NEW WORD TO LEARN

**FLESH** – our sinful nature that all humans are born with.



# PRAY

Pray that our eyes would be open to things that enchant us and take our eyes off Jesus.



# WEEK SIX

## BACKGROUND

In Chapter 3, we switch gears from Paul addressing Peter directly to Paul addressing the Galatians. Paul asks the question "Who has bewitched you?" And this is such a good question to consider in our lives as well. Bewitched means to put a spell over or enchant. The Galatians had become so enchanted with the Judiazers and their message. They [the Judiazers] were adding to the Gospel saying that to be saved you had do certain acts plus the Gospel. Paul asks the Galatian Christians to recall the Holy Spirit's work in their lives. Abraham was highly revered in the Jewish religion and Paul points out that it was not the act of circumcision that made Abraham righteous, but that he was counted righteous apart from works (Genesis 15:6).