

Message Notes

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Questions for Reflection and Discussion

Galatians 4:21-31

Date: November 12, 2017

Bible Focus: Galatians 4:21-31

Current Series: Free (A Study in Galatians)

Message Title: The Awareness Factor

Galatians 4:21 - Tell me, you who want to be under the law, are you not aware of what the law says?

1. Review _____

Gal 4:22-23 - For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by the slave woman and the other by the free woman. ²³ His son by the slave woman was born in the ordinary way; but his son by the free woman was born as the result of a promise.

2. Contrast _____

Gal 4:24-28,31 - These things may be taken figuratively, for the women represent two covenants. One covenant is from Mount Sinai and bears children who are to be slaves: This is Hagar. ²⁵ Now Hagar stands for Mount Sinai in Arabia and corresponds to the present city of Jerusalem, because she is in slavery with her children. ²⁶ But the Jerusalem that is above is free, and she is our mother. ²⁷ For it is written: "Be glad, O barren woman, who bears no children; break forth and cry aloud, you who have no labor pains; because more are the children of the desolate woman than of her who has a husband." ²⁸ Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise. ³¹ Therefore, brothers, we are not children of the slave woman, but of the free woman.

24	2 Women		
24	2 Covenants		
24,27	2 Births		
25,26	2 Outcomes		
26	2 Cities		
23,28	2 Lifestyles		
31	2 Families		

3. Highlight _____

Gal 4:28-30 - Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise. ²⁹ At that time the son born in the ordinary way persecuted the son born by the power of the Spirit. It is the same now. ³⁰ But what does the Scripture say? "Get rid of the slave woman and her son, for the slave woman's son will never share in the inheritance with the free woman's son."

1. How have rules, rituals, and religion been a part of your faith, in the near or distant past?
2. Have you seen "the awareness factor" change your faith or religious practices?
3. Name a couple of ways biblical history has influenced your faith. How has historical biblical awareness given you confidence in what you believe and do?
4. How have you struggled with a works-based, rather than faith-based, walk with God? What side of the continuum do you tend to gravitate toward? In what ways would contrasting the two ways help you live out the true Gospel?
5. In what ways is your life similar to Isaac or Ishmael's story? How can these similarities spur your faith forward?
6. So how is your current relationship with God? Is it driven more by the law or by love? Is there anything you need to let go of for your relationship with God to be real, vibrant, and intimate and not based on rules or rituals?