

ALL IN 20

Into Zone of the Unknown

Focused Living Ministries



*I cdnuolt blveiee taht I cluod aulactly
uesdnatnrd waht I was radnieg. The
phaonmneal pweor of the hmuan mnid!*

*Aoccdrnig to rscheearch dnoe at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, it deosn't mtttaer in
waht oredr the ltteers in a wrod are, the olny iprmoatnt tihng is that the
frist and lsat ltteer be in the rghit pclae. The rset can be a taotl mses and
you can stll raed it wouthit a porbelm.* Even as our minds have the
incredible power to read messed up words as long as the first and last letters
are in the right place, so our Lord is incredibly powerful to use our often
messed up lives to proclaim His absolute forgiveness in Christ! He under-
stands that as long as we have the first and last letter of our lives in the right
place with Christ as our Alpha and Omega (Rev 1:8), He can use our imper-
fect lives to proclaim His glory with the rest of the letters! And, if you call on
Christ in the first moments of the day and end the day with Him, He will
graciously place the rest of the scrambled letters of your life to make you the
man, husband, father and friend He designed and desires you to be.



Give an example of our awesome God using flawed men for His
glory. How does this inspire you to become more ALL IN? Is
Christ the first Person you think of in the morning? The last One
you praise at night?

OUTLINE OF ACTS (1:8) *“You will receive power when the Holy Spirit
has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses in Jerusalem (failure+
fear. Ch1-12), Judea (family+familiarity. Ch 13-19), Samaria (enemies+
prejudice. Ch 8)... to the remotest part of the earth (unknown. Ch13-28).”*

ESTIMATED EARLY CHURCH TIME FRAME

- 30- Christ resurrected, ascends, establishes 1st church in Jerusalem (Acts 1-2)
- 33- Stephen martyred. Paul comes to Christ. Disciples scatter/flee. (Acts 6-9)
- 35- Antioch starts to send others into the zone of unknown (Acts 11:19)
- 36- Paul ends 3 yr personal retreat w/ Jesus in desert of Syria (Gal 1:15-24)
- 46- 1st Missionary journey: Paul, Barnabas, cousin John Mark. (Acts 13-14)
See Map. 1400 frequent flier miles! Antioch (Syria today), Seleucia, Salamis, Paphos (on
Cyprus), Perga, Antioch of Pisidia (Turkey), Iconium, Lystra, Derbe, Pamphylia, Attalia,

OVERVIEW OF ACTS 13-18 www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z-17KxpjL0Q

A missionary is not someone who **crosses the seas**;
A missionary is someone who helps others **see the cross**.

GOD'S KIND OF CHURCH (Acts 8:1-2; 11:19-26; 13:1-3) How did this
sending church of Antioch come about and what character qualities did they
have which the Lord used? As a Christ follower and part of His church do
you some of these qualities? How are you building Christ's church Body?

(Acts 9:15-16; John 17:18; 20:21; Col 1:27-29) What/who was their
MOTIVATION for a lifestyle of being 'sent'? Do you wake up every
morning with expectation and excitement of being sent by the Lord and
commissioned by the Holy Spirit to represent Christ wherever you go?

ACTS 13 What **OPPOSITION** did this sent team of men face? Why? How
did God use it for His glory, their growth and the spread of the Gospel?
How can you identify?

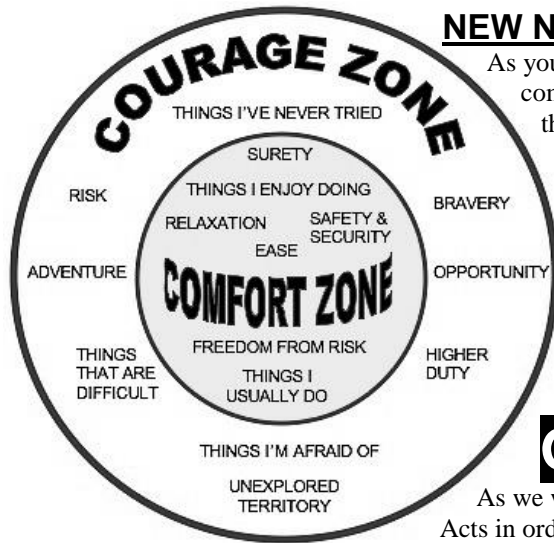
What was their **MAIN MESSAGE** to the cities in the region called Galatia
and how might you use this same message with your family/friends? Who
was their audience and why is it so important not to assume that religious
folks have crossed over from death to life in Christ and understand how to be
born again in a relationship with God? Why is it so important not to neglect
those you would not think would be interested?

What **RESPONSES** did they get to their message? How did they trust God
for the results? What can you expect as you are sent by God and obediently
step out in faith? (Acts 13:4-12, 44-52; John 15:18, 20; II Tim 3:12)

ACTS 14 What **OPPOSITION** did this sent team of men face? Why? How
did God use it for His glory, their growth and the spread of the Gospel?
How can you identify?

What was their **MAIN MESSAGE** to the cities in the region called Galatia?
What would your family and friends say is the main message of your life?
Why is it important not to neglect those who are not presently interested?

What were the various **RESPONSES** to their message and how did the
disciples trust God for the results? (14:18-19)



NEW NORMAL LIVING

As you move outside of your comfort zone, what was once the unknown and frightening becomes the your new normal. How do you sense God is calling you to a new normal outside of your comfort zone. Give an example.

Galatians

As we work our way through Acts in order to discover how the

Lord made these men ALL IN we thought it would be meaningful to read through some of the letters God wrote to and through the ALL IN men of the early church. To read them in context will help us to 'own' both the encouragement and challenges God gave these early Christ followers as we also get off course, stumble and blow it while following Christ. The theme of the letter to the various churches in a district called Galatia (Turkey) is "**Back to the One True Gospel of Grace.**" After starting this church on his first missionary journey 14 years after coming to Christ, Paul wrote this letter around AD 49, making it the first of his letters we have in the Bible. The Galatian church was mostly made up of Gentile Christians. Paul thought it vital to write this church because although they had been taught that salvation/justification is by faith in Christ alone plus nothing, some heretical Jewish Christians from Jerusalem (Judaizers; 1:7; 2:12) promoted the idea that the Gentile Christians had to keep parts of the Jewish Law (circumcision) in order to be acceptable by God to receive His love. And apparently, the Galatians complied! (Would you like that as part of your church membership today?! Ouch!) Paul was heartbroken that they had so quickly altered the primary message of the Gospel (Gal 1:6; 3:1-5; 4:20; 5:7) so he used the full weight of his apostolic authority to carefully steer them away from these lies and back to the true Gospel. He wrote Galatians to clarify that there is only one gospel of grace. He warned that adding ANY OTHER requirements (circumcision, church attendance, tithing, bible study, good behavior) to a man's salvation nullified the Gospel. We have been saved by grace through faith...period (Rom 10:9-13). With this in mind, read through Galatians over the next week receiving God's truth as though you were one of the first recipients. Use the following questions to help you discover power principles guaranteed to grow you into an ALL IN **Master's man** who trusts Jesus day by day rather than a **moral man** who tries hard to earn God's love and acceptance!

MORAL MAN or MASTER'S MAN?

MORAL MAN

Make believes
Believes in God
 Focused on the **outside**
 Observes **man's traditions**
 Honors God w/ **lips**
 Life lived **outside** → in
 Priority is **religion**
 Sees God = **taskmaster**
Works for God (works)
Knows about God
 Thinks/acts like a **slave**
Professes Christ
 Wants **God's blessings**
 Loves when **convenient**
 I am **worthy!** (earned)
Approval addict
People pleaser
 Pressure's on: **performance**
Reads the Bible
 Wants God's **presents**
 Failure is **final**
 Moved by **guilt**
 Focus on your **failure**
 Caught up in the **grind**
Stressed out, tries harder
 Focused on the **fruits**
 Motivated by **duty**
 Strives to work **for** God
 "Look at all I have to **do!**"
Self improvement
Pride (I can)
 I get the **present awards**
 What can I **achieve?**
 I must be **successful**
 Desires **happiness**
 Bondage: **enslaved** to duty
Reservoir: Stingy
Overwhelmed
 Filled with **rules**
Conditional love
 Jesus **plus...** whatever.
 If it's gonna be... **up to me**

GRACE/TRUTH

Is 40:25-31
 Jn 6:29
 Mk 7:6
 Mk 7:3, 7, 13
 Mk 7:6-7
 Mk 7:14-15, 18
 Mk 7:5-15
 Lk 15:11-32
 Eph 2:8-9; Gal 5:25
 Jn 17:3
 Rom 8:14-17
 Gal 2:20
 Ps 73:25-28
 I Jn 4:10; Jn 13:1-10
 Is 43:4; I Pt 1:18-19
 Jn 12:43; Mk 7:5-13
 Gal 1:10; Jud 21:25
 Gal 4:1-7
 Hb 4:12-13
 Ps 27:4,8; 63:1
 Ps 51; Ps 103:8-13
 Rm 8:1-2; II Cor 7:10
 Lk 15:11-32
 II Cor 12:7-10
 Heb 11:6; I Jn 5:3
 Col 2:6-7
 Ps 40:8
 Luke 5:16; 10:38-42
 Eph 1:2-14
 Rom 8:1-8
 I Pt 5:5-7
 II Tim 4:6-8
 Eph 2:9-10
 Lk 16:10
 Phil 4:11-13 Jas 1:2-4
 Gal 5:1, 13-14
 Acts 20:35; Lk 6:38
 Eph 3:14-21
 Mt 22:34-40
 I Cor 13:1-8
 Phil 1:21; Ps 26:4,8
 Phil 4:13; Zech 4:6

MASTER'S MAN

Believes Maker
Believes God
 Focused on the **inside**
 Obeys **God's truth**
 Honors God w/ **lives**
 Life lived **inside** → out
 Priority is **relationship**
 Celebrates God= **loving Father**
Walks with God (faith)
Knows God personally
 Thinks/behaves like a **son**
Possessed by Christ
Wants God!
 Loves because **committed**
 I am **valuable!** (assigned)
Audience of One
God pleaser
 Pressure's off: **position**
Submits to God's Word
 Desire God's **presence**
 Failure **never final** w/ God
 Motivated by **conviction**
 Focus on the **Father**
 Calls upon His **grace**
Stretched out, trusts more
 Growing his **roots**
 Compelled by **delight**
 Longs to be **with** God
 "Look at all He has **done!**"
Spirit's movement
Humility (I can't, He can)
 I seek the **future rewards**
 What have I **received?**
 I will be **faithful**
 Content with **joy**
 Liberty: **freed** to serve
River: Generous
Overflowing
 Fulfilled by **relationships**
Unconditional love
 Jesus **period!**
 I can do all things **thru Christ**

GALATIANS 1

What did God most impress on your heart from today's reading?

Digging Deeper

- **1:6** Most of Paul's later letters start off with some encouragement. How does Paul start this letter?
- **1:1, 16** What underlies the authority of Paul's apostleship?
- **1:8-12** What underlies the authority of Paul's Gospel? Why do you think Paul emphasize this so strongly?
- What certainty do you have in your understanding of the Gospel in which you believed? Are you absolutely certain that you will spend eternity with your Creator God Who loves you based on your faith in Christ alone?
- **1:13-16, 23** How does Paul characterize his life before and after conversion? Describe one big difference between your "old self" and your current self in Christ.
- **1:24** How could other people) glorify God because of you?
- What principle, promise, command, example, warning, or truth from this passage will, if applied, help you be more ALL IN?

GALATIANS 2

What did God most impress on your heart from today's reading?

Digging Deeper

- **2:1-5,9** What was significant about Paul's trip to Jerusalem with Barnabas and Titus regarding the Gospel?
- **2:4** Does the Gospel you give to others lead to freedom or bondage?
- **2:11-14** What was significant about Peter's (Cephas) trip to Antioch regarding the Gospel?
- **2:15-16,21** Read these verses three times. What is Paul shouting out to you?
- **2:20** What truths from this verse could totally change your life on both sides of the grave?
- What principle, promise, command, example, warning, or truth from this passage will, if applied, help you be more ALL IN?

GALATIANS 3

What did God most impress on your heart from today's reading?

Digging Deeper

- **3:1-5** What is foolish about trying to perfect your life by works on your own efforts when God has given you the righteousness of Christ and is already started the process of perfecting your life in Christ (sanctification)?
- **3:6-9** What is Paul's point in referencing Abraham? Hint...did Abraham have the Law of Moses to keep and make him acceptable to God? (3:17-18)
- **3:13** Who has brought you out of the curse of being justified by the Law?
- **3:19-25** If we are not justified by the Law, what is its purpose? Key is verse 25. If you are flunking a course you must ace in order to graduate to whom does the high bar of an 'A' motivate you go? Why?
- **3:26-29** In what sense does the unity believers have of being in Christ trump any other distinction between us? How are you practically living this unity out?
- What principle, promise, command, example, warning, or truth from this passage will, if applied, help you be more ALL IN?

GALATIANS 4

What did God most impress on your heart from today's reading?

Digging Deeper

- Paul continues to show the difference between a **SLAVE** (under the law, in bondage, flesh focused in order to earn God's love) and a **SON** (who has God's full love in Christ, adopted son of God, Holy Spirit inside, Spirit led). In a nutshell, Paul says: *"You started as slaves under the Law. But now you are sons! Why in the world would you want to go back to being a slave?!"* In what ways, perhaps subtly, are you still performing like a slave for your salvation instead of standing in the full confidence of a son and Heir of God the Father?
- **4: 21-31** What is the main point (4:29-31) that Paul is making by using the Old Testament story of Abraham's two sons (Genesis 16,17, 21)?

Abe's wife Hagar = slave woman	Abe's wife Sarah = free woman
Ishmael...born according to flesh	Isaac born according to God's promise & the Spirit
Law given at Mount Sinai	Covenant given at cross Jerusalem

Is your righteousness based on keeping the Law or in God keeping His covenant promise to you in Christ?

- Paul is clearly concerned for the Galatians faith. Who's concerned for your faith? Whose faith are you concerned about? How can you express your concern?
- What principle, promise, command, example, warning, or truth from this passage will, if applied, help you be more ALL IN?

GALATIANS 5

What did God most impress on your heart from today's reading?

Digging Deeper

- **5:1-4** The heretical Judaizers wanted these new Gentile Christians to ALSO follow the Jewish law and be circumcised. They taught a **Jesus Plus religion** instead of the biblical **Jesus Period relationship**. What is Paul's strong response to this? Do you presently feel pressure to also ADD something to the Gospel to keep you right with God as if His grace alone was not good enough? Where is this pressure coming from?
- **5:6,13-15** How does Paul sum up where these new believers (and us) should be focused?
- **5:16-26** Where do you see the flesh and Spirit in opposition in your life? With what evidence of the flesh can you most identify? Which fruit of the Spirit do you most need this week?
- What principle, promise, command, example, warning, or truth from this passage will, if applied, help you be more ALL IN?

GALATIANS 6

What did God most impress on your heart from today's reading?

Digging Deeper

- **6:1-5** Our spiritual journey is not a solo journey. Our Sanctification is worked out in spiritual community. What action verbs do you see in these five verses? How are you currently doing these? Explain why verse 2 and verse 5 are not contradictory.
- **6:8,9** How are you currently reaping what you have sown in the past? How is God graciously walking you through the consequences?
- **6:14,15** What things do you boast about (even if only in your heart)? How do these things line up with the Cross?
- What principle, promise, command, example, warning, or truth from this passage will, if applied, help you be more ALL IN?