



## Gospel Unity

Galatians 2:1-10

The first ten verses of Galatians 2 are like the minutes of the meeting Paul has with the apostles in Jerusalem. As *exciting* as that sounds, the outcome of this meeting had huge implications for us all, even today!

### What was the meeting about?

- *“To make sure I was not running or had run in vain”* (v. 3)
- **It wasn’t to make sure the apostles had the true gospel; it was to make sure the apostles were being true to the gospel.**

### What was at stake?

- **Division:** The church being divided (Gentiles and Jews), and thus ministry to real people (Gentiles) being undone.
- **Freedom:** The freedom we have in Christ being robbed from us.

### What was the outcome?

- *“Even Titus, who was with me, was not forced to be circumcised, though he was a Greek”* (v. 4).
- They *“added nothing”* to the gospel Paul was preaching (v. 6)
- **They agreed with Paul, that Christianity is about who we are in Christ because of what He has done for us, not what we do for Him.**

### Implications:

- **The gospel leads to freedom.** (v. 4-5)
- **The gospel leads to unity.** (v. 6-9)
  - What does unity look like?*
    - (1) Accepting everyone who is in Christ Jesus regardless of cultural or ethnic background;
    - (2) Recognizing that we have different callings – we preach the *same gospel* but are called to *different people*.
- **The gospel leads to a shared calling to care for the poor.** (v. 10)

# Study Guide



## Discuss / Reflect

1. Paul makes this visit to Jerusalem, taking Barnabas and Titus with him. Why did some want Titus to be circumcised? Why was Paul so insistent that this should not be done?
2. Have there been times in your life when you have begun to think that your performance counts toward your salvation? What caused you to think this way?
3. Do you ever feel guilty or insecure in your relationship with God? What might this be telling you about how you view your acceptance with Him?
4. Think of some Christian groups whose style gets on your nerves. Does seeing that there is only one gospel help your acceptance of them? What are the limits to unity?



## Pray

Thank God for the freedom you have in Christ, because of what Christ did on the cross in your place. Thank Him that we can rest in the finished work of Christ! Thank Him for the unity that comes by His Spirit. And ask God to show you practical ways that you can care for the poor.



## Memorize

Galatians 2:10 – *“Only, they asked us to remember the poor, the very thing I was eager to do.”*



## Apply

- Are you resting in the finished work of Jesus?
- How are you caring for the poor? How has Galatians 2:10 encouraged and/or challenged you?