



## Galatians wk5: Faith is Our Path to Freedom

**Introduction:** In Galatians 3, Paul confronts the Galatians not for falling back into obvious sin, but for something subtler and more dangerous: returning to self-effort, legalism, and performance after beginning their life with God by grace. He reminds them that the Spirit was given as a gift, righteousness was credited by faith, and freedom comes not through striving but through trusting the promise of God.

### Discussion Questions

1. How is the story of the climber rescued twice in the same week relatable? Have you seen times in your own life where you effectively said, “Thanks God, I’ve got it now?”
2. Read **Galatians 3:1–4**. Why do you think Paul uses such strong language (“foolish,” “bewitched”)? What does this reveal about how seriously he takes the danger of drifting from grace into self-reliance? What point is he making about the timing of the arrival of the Holy Spirit, and what does that have to do with earning it or receiving it?
3. Read **Galatians 3:5–9**. Define faith. Paul connects believers to Abraham, saying that righteousness is credited by faith. What does that mean? There are actually 2 promises that God made to Abraham that Paul is referring to here – what are they? (See Genesis 12:3 & 15:6)
4. Read **Galatians 3:17-22** Why does Paul point out that the law came 430 years after the promise? Why was the law given?
5. What is the difference between adding spiritual disciplines and practices versus applying the gospel to every situation we encounter?
6. What is a possible area of your life where you tend to rely on effort, discipline, or performance rather than letting the gospel reshape your motivations?

**Shaping Your Mind** – After beginning by means of the Spirit, are you now trying to finish by means of the flesh?” Galatians 3:3

**Moving Forward** – Don’t leave the rescue of the gospel in an attempt to prove your devotion to God.