




LIGHTBULB MOMENTS : RELIGION WAS
KILLING MY
SPIRITUAL LIFE
JULY 19 & 20
RENÉ SCHLAEPFER

MY LIGHTBULB VERSES FROM GALATIANS

Are you so foolish? After beginning with the Spirit, are you now trying to attain your goal by human effort? Galatians 3:3

I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ. Gal. 1:6-7

The biggest enemy of grace: _____;

Adding man-made rules or expectations to the gospel;

_____ the simple message of grace.

PRAYER UPDATE

Please pick up a prayer sheet in the lobby for all this week's updates.

HOME WITH THE LORD

Please pray for **Gail Jean Mcguire-Sais** as she grieves the sudden loss of her son, Daniel, in a car accident on Highway 17. Pray for God's sustaining comfort and peace.

Connor Eckhardt, 19 yr old grandson of Loren and Sylvia Eckhardt of Prakash in India, died unexpectedly.

Parents Devon and Veronica Eckhardt ask for your prayers during this extremely difficult time.



THREE RESULTS OF LEGALISM:

1. DRAINS _____
What has happened to **all your joy**? Gal. 4:15a

You have **fallen away from grace**. Gal. 5:4b
2. LEADS TO _____
You are **no longer a slave**, but God's child. Gal. 4:7a

Now that you know God — or rather are known by God — how is it that you are turning back to those weak and miserable principles? Do you wish to be **enslaved by them all over again**? Gal. 4:9

It is for **freedom** that Christ has set us **free**. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of **slavery**. Gal. 5:1
3. PROMOTES _____
Those people are zealous to win you over, but for no good. What they want is ...that you may be **zealous for them**. Gal. 4:17

IF LEGALISM IS OUT, THEN HOW DO I GROW?

You have been called to live in freedom. But don't use your freedom to indulge your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love...Let the **Holy Spirit** guide your lives...**the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit** in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Gal. 5:13,16,23 NLT

The one who **sows** to please his sinful nature, from that nature **will reap** destruction; the one who **sows** to please the Spirit, **from the Spirit will reap** eternal life. Gal. 6:8

THE BOTTOM LINE:

When I soak in God's grace to me, the Spirit produces change

_____.

DAILY MEDITATIONS

MEMORY VERSE: "Are you so foolish? After beginning with the Spirit, are you now trying to attain your goal by human effort?" Galatians 3:3

MONDAY: Read Galatians 1:3–7. Look back over your notes. What hit a chord for you in the weekend message? Have you experienced any of the four results of legalism? *Today, tell God honestly how you feel about your relationship with Him: Distant, exhausted, confused, happy, sad, or anything else. Ask God to help you grow in your understanding of the depths of His grace.*

TUESDAY: Read Galatians 3:1–6. Can you relate to Paul's observation about the Galatian church's religion—they had begun with simple faith in Christ but had become distracted by their own human effort? Can you relate to Rene's chart about the long, slow slide into legalism? Why do you think this happens? If you escaped the performance trap, how did you do it? *Ask God to help you refocus on His grace!*

WEDNESDAY: Read Galatians 4:4–7. What does it mean to you that you are a child of God? How does this produce a different kind of spirituality than thinking you are an employee or slave of God? Now read Gal. 4:8–11. The Galatians were God's children, but were living like slaves under legalism. Why do Christians do this? Do you? *Today pray, "Thank you, Father, that I am Your child by Your grace! Help me to live like one!"*

THURSDAY: Read Galatians 5:1–6. When we "fall away from grace", we forget God's mercy – to us and to others. My friend Ray Johnston points out three results of "missing grace":

- Perfectionism (A lack of grace turned inward)
- Judgmentalism (A lack of grace turned outward)
- Legalism (A lack of grace turned upward)

Which of the three have you struggled with most? *Ask God to set you free from performance-oriented religion.*

FRIDAY: Read Galatians 5:13–25. What does Paul say to those who might use "grace" as an excuse to sin? What are some helpful ways to "walk by the Spirit" and plant seeds of grace? *Spend time today just thanking God for His grace by which you are saved!*

SATURDAY: Read Galatians 5:7–10. Paul is not saying we earn eternal life by our works. He is simply saying that, even as saved believers, we harvest whatever kinds of seeds we plant in our lives. If we plant even tiny thoughts of gratitude and worship to God for His grace, then we will harvest lives of grace and peace. *Ask God to continue to make our church a place of grace!*