

# Living Connections Bible Study

## Standing Free

### Freedom and Responsibility

**Text:** Galatians 5:1-15

### Prayer

**Icebreaker:** After Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, the Civil War, and the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment was ratified many slaves continued to live in bondage, fear, and squalor. Why would they do that?

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1. What glorious exhortation do we find in Galatians 5:1? John 8:36

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2. What does it mean to be free in Christ?

- I am free from the \_\_\_\_\_ of sin because of the cross      Romans 6:23
- I am free from the \_\_\_\_\_ of sin because I am forgiven      Romans 5:1; 8:1
- I am free from the \_\_\_\_\_ of sin by the Holy Spirit      Romans 6:14a; 8:11
- I am free from the \_\_\_\_\_ (its penalties, threats, and demands)      Romans 6:14b
- I am free to enjoy my spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ      Romans 8:16-17a, 32  
Ephesians 1:3

3. What is the key to entering into the privileges of grace in which we stand? Romans 5:2

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4. When a person goes back to the Law to establish their own righteousness what impossible obligation do they come under? Galatians 5:2-4; Romans 3:23

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When Paul warns the Galatians that if they took the Jewish mark of circumcision *Christ would profit them nothing*, they would become *estranged from Christ*, and *fall from grace*, he is not suggesting that the Galatians had lost or were losing their salvation. At least nine times Paul calls them brethren, and also uses the pronoun *we* throughout the book, recognizing them as fellow believers. In Galatians 4:6 Paul states, *And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts crying Abba, Father*. If his readers were not saved, Paul couldn't address them in this way.

What Paul is warning them against is falling out of the sphere of grace, of falling off the high platform of their freedom in Christ, of forfeiting the power of the Holy Spirit by becoming slaves to a legal system, and depending on their own fleshly strength to obey the Law.

5. What four keys to victorious Christian living under grace does Paul mention in Galatians 5:5-6? 1 John 3:2-3

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6. Who was it that had troubled, confused and tripped up the Galatian believers? Galatians 5:7

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7. Who does Paul say is not the source of legalism? Galatians 5:8

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8. What kind of effect did these false teachers have on the churches in Galatia?  
Galatians 5:9; Matthew 16:6, 12

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9. What confidence does Paul express in Galatians 5:10? Philippians 1:6

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10. What does Paul mean by *the offense of the cross*? Galatians 5:11

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11. What pun does Paul make in verse 12, and what does he mean by it?

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12. Does living under grace mean that we have the license to indulge the flesh and live in sin?  
Galatians 5:13; Romans 6:1-2

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**Think about it this week:**

*For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this:  
You shall love your neighbor as yourself.  
But if you bite and devour one another, beware lest you be consumed by one another!*  
Galatians 5:14-15

Is my love for God and for my brother being demonstrated in fulfilling the righteous requirements of the Law?