

### Growing Deeper Continued:

- The truth is that God’s amazing provision for the born again believer is accomplished at the moment of regeneration (salvation) through saving faith in Jesus Christ, alone! Everything a believer gains at the moment of salvation is imputed (deposited) by God into the born again believer (Eph. 1:3); it is **freely given** by God, it could **never** be worked for or purchased. **Read, interpret and understand what God has accomplished for each & every genuine believer:**
  - Adoption – Romans 8:14-23; Galatians 4:5
  - Redemption – Romans 3:24-25
  - Propitiation – Romans 3:24-25; 4:7; 1 John 2:1-2
  - Grace – Romans 5:1-2; Ephesians 2:8-9
  - Reconciliation – Romans 5:10
  - Sonship – John 1:12; Romans 8:17
  - Righteousness – Romans 3:21-4:25
  - Justification – 1 Corinthians 6:11; Titus 3:3-7
  - Regeneration – John 3:3; Titus 3:5
  - Washing & cleansing – Titus; 3:5-6; 1 John 1:9
  - Eternal life – John 3:16; 3:36; 1 John 5:11-12
  - Freedom from slavery to sin, Satan & spiritual death – Romans 6:6-11

### Taking it Home:

- Why did Pastor Matthew have chains & locks wrapped around his body while he was preaching? What did the chains and locks represent? Can you identify some areas of your life where you may have slipped back into self-slavery to such things as extra-biblical rules, added requirements, ceremonies or laws that are not a part of the New Testament doctrine of salvation? Examine yourself; if you sense there are areas of legalism in your life seek forgiveness from God so He may give you freedom from the shackles of legalism (1 John 1:9).
- Some may view the awesome freedom through Christ as a freedom or license to sin; but actually those who’ve been transformed by Christ and indwelt with the Holy Spirit have the freedom to live for God! **This week Read and interpret 1 Cor. 3:16; 6:19-20; Galatians 5:22-23; “5 Walks of the Believer,” #1 Eph. 4:1; #2 Eph. 4:17; #3 Eph. 5:1-2; #4 Eph. 5:8; #5 Eph. 15; 1 John 3:23-24; 1 John 4:13-14.** What are the clear instructions from these Scriptures about living for Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit?

## And So They Ran

Notes:

# Growth Group Homework

For the week of May 6, 2012

Galatians 1:6

---

**Quick Review:** Grace is scandalous, outrageous, and sometimes shocking. We believe we must prove ourselves and earn a position as people who are righteous. And our expectation is that others must prove themselves as well. For those who are conditioned to strive after self-righteousness, any talk about Spirit-led freedom seems, well . . . wrong. The pressure for you and I to earn our own way is intense. Freedom and grace is frightening and many run away.

## My Story:

- Many people are enslaved to things that rule or control their lives. Freedom is being “set free” from the chains and shackles of the things that rule or control their lives. What are some of the things in our modern culture that keep people in bondage, “chained and shackled” to things that rule their lives? Are there things that ruled or controlled your life that you had to “free yourself” from? How did you free yourself? Discuss.
- Most everyone on the earth has heard of slavery; “*one person owning another person.*” Throughout the Bible the ancient middle-eastern world culture was dominated with slavery, in fact the apostle Paul speaks a lot of about slavery in his epistles. How did/does a person get purchased out of slavery? Paul states that all people are “slaves to sin.” According to the apostle Paul what is the ONLY way a person can be freed from their slavery to sin? (Cf. Romans 6:6; 6:17-18; 22). Can a person “*free themselves*” from sin other than through Jesus Christ?

## Growing Deeper:

- The apostle Paul was writing a doctrinal letter to the Christians in the province of Galatia (modern day Turkey) to correct their errant understanding of the doctrine of salvation. Paul was addressing several false teachings the Galatians had been poisoned by false teachers: (1) A person is saved through faith in Christ plus adherence to ceremonies, added requirements, and standards from the Old Testament; (2) they adhered to “legalism,” “self-applied rules or standards” not found in Scripture. Pastor Matthew gave us an acronym which simplifies the firm foundational truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. What did Pastor Matthew mean by the acronym **GRACE**? What does the word “grace” mean?
  - **G – Guaranteed**
  - **R – Redemption**
  - **A – At**
  - **C – Christ’s**
  - **E – Expense**
- Paul sends a strong rebuke in the book of Galatians against the false teachers who had changed the simplicity of the Gospel. Is it necessary to add anything to the simple plan of salvation; “*For by grace you’ve been saved through faith*” (Eph. 2:8)? Discuss. What were the reasons Pastor Matthew mentioned of why the Galatians “*quickly deserted Him [Christ] who called them by the grace of Christ, for a different gospel*” (Gal. 2:6)?
- Paul uses some very deliberate and very strong words in his letter to the Galatians about his **displeasure** that the Galatians had received false teaching concerning a “different gospel,” other than the gospel of Jesus Christ. To truly understand how serious Paul’s rebuke was to the Galatians, look at the words he uses to drive home his point:
  - Amazed – Greek – *thaumazo*: “*astonishment*”
  - Deserting – Greek – *metatithemi*: “*used of a military desertion*”
  - Different gospel – Greek – *heteros*: “*qualitatively strange, foreign.*”
  - Should Paul’s strong words of rebuke be a concern for you and I living in Fargo, ND today? How important is having the “correct” doctrine of salvation for our spiritual walk? **READ and interpret: Romans 10:9-10; Ephesians 2:1-5; 8, 9; 2 Timothy 1:8-9; Titus 3:3-6; 1 Peter 1:3**
- Pastor Matthew stated that the Galatians were grossly imbedded with legalism from false teachers who undermined Paul’s doctrinal teachings. **What is legalism?** Legalism is when I add to the work of Christ so that more is required for you/me to be right with God. We do this from a place of pride. I have to give myself over to Christ - this requires I give up control. I have to maintain control by managing my sin and salvation. I’m so insecure that I look at you legalistically, which means I expect you to live by my certain standards above & beyond Scriptural truth.