"The Liberator - A Walk in Grace"

"So Christ has truly set us free. Now make sure that you stay free..." Galatians 5:1a NLT Part 5

"Simply Faith"

Galatians 3:26-4:20

"For you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus." Galatians 3:26

A. It is simple faith that makes us <u>one</u>...

1. We are all one in **Christ**.

"You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ." vs 3:26-27

2. We are all one in Christ with no <u>ethnic</u> differences. There is no room for prejudice in the gospel of Jesus.

"There is neither Jew nor Greek...for you are all one in Christ Jesus." vs 28

3. We are all one in Christ with no distinctions in <u>class</u> or rank! There is no room for prejudice in social status in the gospel of Jesus.

"There is neither...slave nor free...for you are all one in Christ Jesus." vs 28

4. We are all one in Christ with no gender differences! There is no room for prejudice in gender in the gospel of Jesus. Men and women both have a place in ministry.

"There is neither...male nor female...for you are all one in Christ Jesus." vs 28

B. It is simple faith that <u>brings</u> us into relationship with Jesus...

1. Simple faith brought Abraham to God.

"...but God in his grace gave it to Abraham through a promise." Vs 3:18

2. Simple faith brings us into relationship with <u>Jesus</u>.

"If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." Vs 3:29

3. By simple faith, and at just the <u>right</u> time, Jesus came to us.

"But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law that we might receive the full rights of sons." Vs 4:4-5

4. By simple faith, and to <u>confirm</u> our relationship, God sent His Spirit.

"Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, 'Abba, Father.'" vs 4:6

C. It was simple faith of the Galatians that received Paul...

1. Paul's <u>illness</u> brought him to share the gospel with the Galatians.

"As you know, it was because of an illness that I first preached the gospel to you." vs 4:13

2. Paul's illness gave them an opportunity to demonstrate love to him.

"Even though my illness was a trial to you, you did not treat me with contempt or scorn. Instead you welcomed me as if I were an angel of God, as if I were Christ Jesus himself." Vs 4:14

3. Paul's illness did not find <u>healing</u>, in spite of his prayer of faith.

"Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong." 2 Corinthians 12:8-10

4. Paul's illness had a greater <u>purpose</u> in which God was working; healing would not have furthered his message.

"...I can testify that, if you could have done so, you would have torn out your eyes and given them to me." vs 4:15

D. So, by simple faith...

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." Ephesians 2:8-10

1. Live for Jesus with the right motive.

"It is fine to be zealous, provided the purpose is good..." vs 4:18

2. Live consistently for Jesus every day!

"and be so always and not just when I am with you." vs 4:18

3. Carry a <u>burden</u> for those around you who are following your simple faith in Christ.

"for whom I am again the pains of childbirth until Christ is formed in you," vs 4:19

4. Show the <u>love</u> of Christ to all those in your world!

"My dear children..." vs 4:19