

No Other Gospel: Galatians 5  
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**Reflection & Discussion Questions**

**Either you trust your own actions of devotion, or you trust Christ (Moral Conformity)**

Read and discuss Galatians 5:4-12(NIV)

*<sup>4</sup> You who are trying to be justified by the law have been alienated from Christ; you have fallen away from grace. <sup>5</sup> For through the Spirit we eagerly await by faith the righteousness for which we hope. <sup>6</sup> For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love. <sup>7</sup> You were running a good race. Who cut in on you to keep you from obeying the truth? <sup>8</sup> That kind of persuasion does not come from the one who calls you. <sup>9</sup> “A little yeast works through the whole batch of dough.” <sup>10</sup> I am confident in the Lord that you will take no other view. The one who is throwing you into confusion, whoever that may be, will have to pay the penalty. <sup>11</sup> Brothers and sisters, if I am still preaching circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? In that case the offense of the cross has been abolished. <sup>12</sup> As for those agitators, I wish they would go the whole way and emasculate themselves!*

\*How is Paul tackling the Moral Conformist approach in this passage?

\*What is problematic with this approach?

\*When do you tend to focus on ‘getting it right’ or being insecure about ‘getting it wrong’?

\*How is the Moral Conformist approach incompatible with real love?

**You are not free to just live true to yourself (Self Discovery)**

Read and discuss Galatians 5:13-15 (NIV)

*<sup>13</sup> You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. <sup>14</sup> For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>15</sup> If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.*

\*How is Paul condemning the Self Discovery approach in this passage?

\*What is problematic with this approach?

\*When do you tend to focus on your own freedom or not being controlled?

\*How is the Self Discovery approach incompatible with real love?

**The pathway to the Kingdom of God is not doing what you want**

Read and discuss Galatians 5:16-26 (NIV)

*<sup>16</sup> So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. <sup>17</sup> For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. <sup>18</sup> But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.*

*<sup>19</sup> The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; <sup>20</sup> idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions <sup>21</sup> and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.*

*<sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. <sup>24</sup> Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. <sup>25</sup> Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. <sup>26</sup> Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.*

\*What does Paul mean by ‘walk by the Spirit’?

\*What do you notice in the contrast between the acts of the flesh and the fruit of the Spirit?

**The fruit of the Spirit emerge in our lives because of communion with God**

They are the product of walking with Him.

\*Has something or someone cut in on your faith and kept you from the simple truth of the Gospel?

\*Is there one of the approaches that the radical Gospel needs to shatter in your life right now?

\*Where are you out of step with the Spirit? Where are you sensing a need to just be with God?

\*What is the Spirit showing you about the products of its fruits?