
A Year in the Word

A Year in the Word: Letters: Part 1 Letters

Small Group Questions: Doing Good to Everybody

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Read

Galatians 5:19 –21; 6:1–10; Proverbs 11:25 and 14:34

Reflect

During the 400-year gap between the Old and New Testament, Celtic people migrate to Galatia (modern-day Turkey). In order to become Christians, they are told by a group from Jerusalem that they must first convert to Judaism (in essence, putting themselves under the law). Paul writes his letter to the Galatians to dispel these false requirements that are causing those in the church to live as if Jesus never existed and Christmas never happened.

Pastor Greg highlights several ways we can do good to all this Christmas:

1. This Christmas I'm going to give someone a hand up.
 - a. Who in your life could use a hand up?
 - i. Who is dealing with an exposed sin—or suffering because of someone else's? Explain.
 - ii. Is anyone caught up in yours—in something you need to change in your life?
 - iii. What is God asking you to do for someone else? How can you help gently restore them?
 - iv. Do you trust God with the repentance process? Why or why not?
2. This Christmas I'm going to keep my head down.
 - a. Who do you tend to compare yourself with, and why?
 - b. How has comparison harmed you or someone you love?
 - c. During a typical day this next week, consciously keep track of how often you focus on what you lack, rather than what you have. Review next week.
 - d. Would you say you are doing your best and working hard? What guardrails do you need to put in place to keep focused on how God sees you?
 - e. How does social media affect your sense of self-worth? Which of the below have you experienced?
 - What comparison does:
 - Robs us of identity and value
 - Fosters insecurity and hopelessness
 - Blocks satisfaction and contentment
 - Suppresses joy and happiness
3. This Christmas I'm going to keep my heart open.
 - a. How do you show generosity? With your time? With your money? With your talent?
 - i. With whom are you willing to be generous? Is it easier to be generous with family? With an individual? With your community? With people in another country? Why?

Respond: Where is God leading you? How can your small group support you?