

Salt Block Ministries Bible Study Guide
Galatians and Ephesians
By Pastor Bubba Stahl

Day One

Read Galatians 1-2. After establishing churches in Galatia (modern-day Turkey), Jewish believers who taught the need to keep the law for spiritual growth, infiltrated the new believers in the Galatian churches with this false doctrine. Paul's letter to the Galatians corrected this heresy and teaches sound doctrine for being justified and for spiritual growth.

How does Paul identify himself in 1:1?

How does Paul identify the problem in 1:6-7?

Where did Paul say he received the gospel that he preached according to 1:11-12?

In 2:1-10, Paul remembers the account of the Jerusalem Council, also found in Acts 15:1-21. Reread the Acts account.

What did Paul rebuke Peter about according to 2:11-14?

What does Paul say about being "justified" in 2:15-16?

What does it mean to be justified?

Day Two

Read Galatians 3-4. What is another way to ask the question in 3:2?

What is another way to ask the question in 3:3?

How would you describe the difference between faith and works for salvation (“receiving the Spirit”), and for spiritual growth (“being perfected”)?

What does Paul say about those who rely upon the works of the law for being justified before God, according to 3:10-12?

What does Paul say about our relationship with the law in 3:23-24?

A guardian was a house slave (steward) that tutored the children of the master. Paul is saying that the Old Testament law taught us of our need for faith in Christ.

Summarize what Paul says in 4:1-7. Use the **Notes** sheet if needed.

Day Three

Read Galatians 5-6. How does Paul say we can avoid gratifying “the desires of the flesh,” according to 5:16?

Summarize 5:17-18 below.

Group the works of the flesh listed in 5:19-21 into categories they fit into. For example: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, orgies = sexual sins.

How would you categorize the fruit of the Spirit in 5:22-23?

What does the Bible say about “burdens” in 6:2 and 6:5?

How would you explain what those verses mean?

Day Four

Read Ephesians 1-2. Paul’s letter to the churches in and around the city of Ephesus does not address a particular problem such as the letter to the Galatians, but is positive with a clear presentation of the gospel and how it is lived out.

List the “spiritual blessings” in 1:3-14 below. Use **Notes** sheet if needed.

What did God do for the lost and why, according to 2:4-10?

What does Paul say about the Gentiles in 2:12-13, 19?

What does he say about Jews and Gentiles in 2:14-18, 20-22?

Day Five

Read Ephesians 3-4. Ephesians is easily outlined as follows: Chapters 1-3: How we were made alive in Christ.

Chapters 4-6: How we are to walk in the Life of Christ.

What does Paul say is the “mystery of Christ,” according to 3:4-6?

What does he say about the “church” in 3:10-12?

What are the requests Paul prays in 3:14-21?

Chapter four begins what some call walking in the Life of Christ. How does he describe this walk in 4:1-3?

How does he describe the way the Gentiles (unbelievers) walk, according to 4:17-19?

Summarize the “walk” in 4:25-32. Use **Notes** if needed.

Day Six

Read Ephesians 5-6. What does Paul say about how to walk in 5:2?

What does he say about how to walk in 5:8?

What does he say about how to walk in 5:15?

How do you think 5:18-21 is related to “walking?”

What does Paul say wives are to do and why, according to 5:22-24?

What does Paul say husbands are to do and why, according to 5:25-33?

According to 6:10-11, how are we to stand and who are we to stand against.

Day One

Read Philippians 1. Paul’s letter to the churches in Philippi is often called the letter of joy. What does he say about them in 1:3-5?

Find and read 2 Corinthians 8:1-5. What does Paul say about the churches of Macedonia (Philippi)?

Now find and read Acts 16:11-40. This is the account of the start of the churches in Philippi.

What does Paul ask God for in his prayer for the Philippians in 1:9-11?

What does Paul say he hopes he hears of them, according to 1:27-28?

What does he say has been given to them along with believing in Christ, according to 1:29-30?

Day Two

Read Philippians 2-3. What does Paul say will complete his joy according to 2:1-4?

The example of what he says in 2:1-4 is found in 2:5-11. This is known as one of the earliest Christian hymns and was recited and/or sung by believers in the first century. What would you say is the theme of this hymn and why do you think it was sung by the early church?

What does Paul say about their salvation in 2:12-13?

Part of Paul's testimony is found in 3:4-14. What did he say he could brag about, if he were to brag, according to 3:4-6?

What does he say is of surpassing worth to him, according to 3:8-11?

What does he say is the "...one thing I do..." according to 3:13-14?

Day Three

Read Philippians 4. What words does Paul use to describe his relationship with the church in Philippi?

What does that say about Paul?

How does Paul address the disagreement between Euodia and Syntyche, according to 4:2-3?

What does this teach you about how to handle conflicts within the church?

Philippians 4:4-7 is often quoted. What does Paul encourage the Philippians to do and not do in that passage?

What promise from God is found in 4:4-7?

What does Paul tell the Philippians to think on in 4:8-9?

Rewrite the list of virtues listed about and beside each one give an example so that you can actually think of something concrete when you think of "...whatever is true..."

These qualities are "being" characteristics, not "doing" activities. Write out an activity that would following the "being" characteristic for each one.

Day Four

Read Colossians 1-2. The problem in the churches of Colossae was the false teaching of legalism and empty philosophy. What does Paul say about their faith in 1:4, their love in 1:4, and their hope in 1:5?

What does he ask for them in his prayer according to 1:9-12?

What does Paul say about Christ in 1:15-20?

How does he say they are to walk, according to 2:6-7?

What does he warn them of in 2:8 and in 2:16, and 18-19?

What does Paul say about “self-made religion” in 2:23?

Day Five

Read Colossians 3. What does Paul say we are to do if we have been raised with Christ, and why, according to 3:1-4?

What does he say we are to put to death and put away, according to 3:5-9?

What does he say we are to put on, according to 3:10-14?

What does Paul tell us to “Let...” in 3:15-16?

What does it mean “to let?”

What does he say about “every word or deed” in 3:17?

Day Six

Read Colossians 4. What does Paul say about prayer in 4:2-4?

What does 4:6 mean? How would you explain it to someone?

For the past two weeks you have read what are called the prison epistles of Paul. Most commentators believe that he wrote these four letters while in prison either in Rome or in Caesarea. Which of these four letters, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, or Colossians is your favorite and why?

Which of these four books have you done the most Scripture memory. List those verses below.