

A wide-angle photograph of a desert canyon landscape. The foreground and middle ground are dominated by layered, reddish-brown rock formations, including a prominent mesa on the right. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds, and the overall lighting suggests a bright, sunny day. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

**GALATIANS:**

**YOU CAN HANDLE  
THE TRUTH**

# Background

- ❖ **Written by Paul**
- ❖ **Written to a group of churches in the Galatia region**
- ❖ **“Magna Carta of Christian Liberty”**
- ❖ **Straying from the truth is the big issue**

# Punchline

**Truth isn't in the eye of the beholder,  
it's in the eyes of God**



**I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you to live in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ.**

Galatians 1: 6-7 NIV

**But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let them be under God's curse! As we have already said, so now I say again: If anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, let them be under God's curse!**

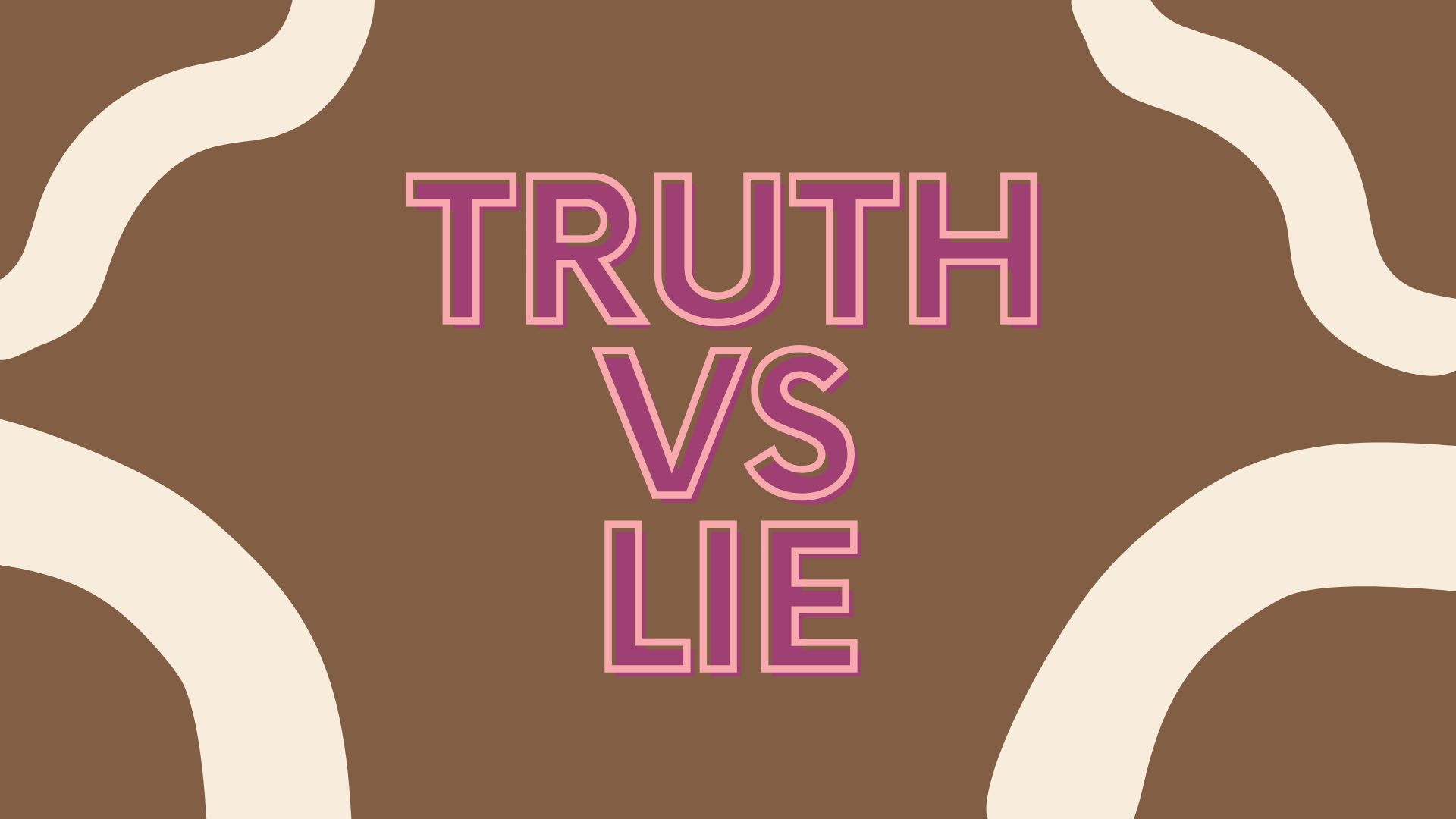
Galatians 1: 8-9 NIV

**Am I now trying to win the approval of human beings, or of God? Or am I trying to please people? If I were still trying to please people, I would not be a servant of Christ.**

Galatians 1: 10 NIV

# Galatians Turning From The Truth

- ❖ **Paul is astonished they're turning to a "different" gospel**
  - **Based on legalism**
  - **Faith and grace are not sufficient**
- ❖ **What Paul taught is the only true gospel**
- ❖ **Do not turn and believe falsehood**



TRUTH  
VS  
LIE



# Know What's A Lie

- ❖ **Watch out for falsehood**
- ❖ **False doctrine**
  - **Different religions that have characteristics of Christianity but deny Jesus as Savior**
  - **The “it’s all a lie” falsehood**



# Know What's A Lie

- ❖ **False Descriptions from Satan**
  - **Making you believe your faith doesn't merit God's grace**
  - **Making you believe God wants nothing to do with you because of your faults**
- ❖ **God's grace is enough, is sufficient and your faith is enough to make you stay**

**I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel I preached is not of human origin. I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it; rather, I received it by revelation from Jesus Christ.**

Galatians 1: 11-12 NIV

**For you have heard of my previous way of life in Judaism, how intensely I persecuted the church of God and tried to destroy it. I was advancing in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people and was extremely zealous for the traditions of my fathers.**

Galatians 1: 13-14 NIV

# The Gospel Came From God

- ❖ **What Paul taught did not come from a human source**
- ❖ **Jesus was revealed right to Paul by God**
- ❖ **Paul shows the power of this by talking about his past**
- ❖ **God used Paul's transformation**
- ❖ **God showed Paul, His truth**



# Seek God's Truth

- ❖ **Truth comes from God**
- ❖ **Seek God**
  - **Pray**
    - **Be annoyingly bothersome**
  - **Read the Bible**
    - **Read like it's brand new**

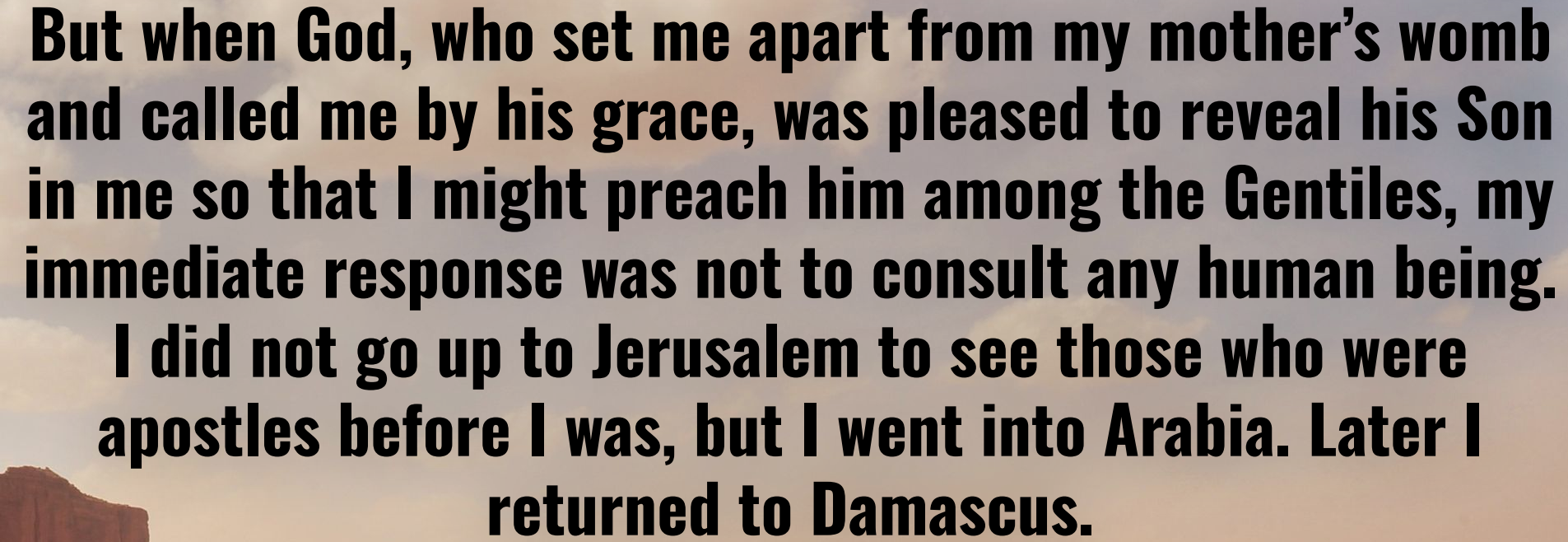


# Seek God's Truth

- ❖ **Be sought by God**
  - **Let Him come find you and give you His truth**
  - **Don't fight God's truth because it's hard**
- ❖ **God's truth is always transformative and life changing**





A wide-angle photograph of a desert landscape. The foreground is a flat, reddish-brown plain. In the middle ground, there are several large, flat-topped rock formations (mesas) of varying heights. The background shows a hazy, orange-tinted sky, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The overall scene is arid and expansive.

**But when God, who set me apart from my mother's womb and called me by his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son in me so that I might preach him among the Gentiles, my immediate response was not to consult any human being. I did not go up to Jerusalem to see those who were apostles before I was, but I went into Arabia. Later I returned to Damascus.**

Galatians 1: 15-17 NIV

**Then after three years, I went up to Jerusalem to get acquainted with Cephas and stayed with him fifteen days. I saw none of the other apostles—only James, the Lord's brother. I assure you before God that what I am writing you is no lie.**

Galatians 1: 18-20 NIV

**Then I went to Syria and Cilicia. I was personally unknown to the churches of Judea that are in Christ. They only heard the report: “The man who formerly persecuted us is now preaching the faith he once tried to destroy.” And they praised God because of me.**

Galatians 1: 21-24 NIV

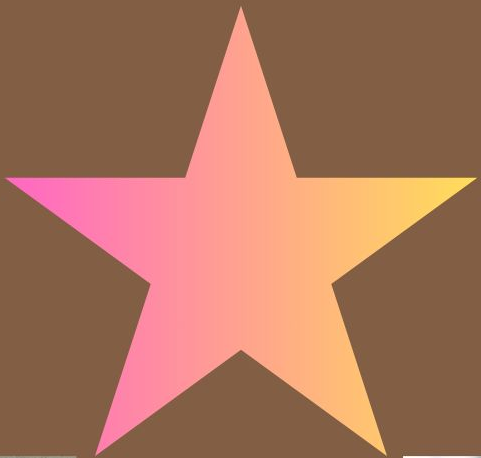
# Paul Lives God's Truth

- ❖ **Paul had to take in God's truth for him**
- ❖ **He didn't race off to consult anyone**
- ❖ **He needed to spend time with God to figure out what this all meant**



# Paul Lives God's Truth

- ❖ **After three years he goes to see Peter (Cephas)**
  - **He's a big deal but Paul does not become a disciple of Peter's**
- ❖ **Then Paul travels where he was known as the man that used to persecute the church**
- ❖ **Paul lived out God's truth**



# Live God's Truth

## ❖ Individually

- Does how you live, mirror the truth you found?
- “I like your Christ, but I don't like you Christians” (Ghandi)
- We should reflect the truth of God

# Live God's Truth

- ❖ **In community**
  - **The way God works out His truth is different in all of our lives**
  - **Our transformations look different but lead to becoming more Christlike**
  - **Being together is important**
- ❖ **Live God's truth individually and in community**



# Live God's Truth

- ❖ **God's truth is available to us**
- ❖ **Many things will try to pull us from God's truth**
- ❖ **Seek God and His truth**
- ❖ **Live out God's truth**
- ❖ **Remember to find the truth in the eyes of God**

## Audio file

[Galatians 1 Audio.mp3](#)

## Transcript

One of my favorite quotes. I guess this one's more on the serious side too. It's from a guy named Dean Karnazes. I think I'm saying his name right. He was an ultra marathoner and book writer in one of his books. He says run when you can walk if you have to crawl, if you must, but don't ever give.

You.

Up. That I saw that on the sign somebody holding a sign when I ran 1/2 marathon about 10 years ago. Like midway through so I had that quote on there I thought was really cool. But other quotes, right, like stand out. They're fun. You know, we have, like, the the dumb and Dumber quotes or any of those. Some are fun, some are just memorable. So mean something to us. And we take on as part of our lives one of my favorite quotes from my absolute favorite movie is from a few good men is my favorite movie of all time. So Tom Cruise, Jack Nicholson and Demi Moore. There's a bunch of big names and there's you go back. But there's a famous scene at the end courtroom drama where Jack Nicholson sits on the witness stand and thunders back. You can't handle the truth and people know that one. I've used it before is my favorite, so we're going to take that quote, but I'm going to change one massive. Word in there, we're going to take it to. You can handle the truth and that will be the title of our new series that we are starting today on the book of Galatians. Here it is right up here. So Galatians, you can handle the truth. We will be here for six weeks. So starting today. 6 Total weeks a chapter each week in the book of Galatians, so I'm going to give a little. Background on the book itself before we dive in for today, so this is a letter written by Paul, same fellow that wrote Philipians that we just finished up a little bit ago. He writes it to a group of churches in Galatia that he founded on his missionary journey. They would call these letters circulatory letters, meaning they were meant to circulate and be passed around so it wasn't one specific church, but it was passed around to churches. In that region, if you're looking at it, Galatia would be roughly modern day Turkey. If you look at a map there, sometimes this letter is known as the Magna Carta of Christian Liberty, meaning that one of the big themes that is in this is that our means of salvation are by God's grace and faith in him alone. So there is freedom from the demands

of legalism and having to earn our salvation, so it's called that sometimes. The issue though that I really see addressed so the reason Paul needs to write this is that the people have been taught the truth about salvation. Paul has taught it and now they are straying away from it, so they are not holding on to the truth. They aren't remembering where it comes from and Paul's got to remind them that they can handle it and remember where the truth comes from, so taking kind of a a playoff, another quote, our idea for today is this. Truth isn't in the eye of the beholder. It's in the eyes of God. Truth isn't in the eyes of the the beholder. If I could talk, it'd be great. It's in the eyes of God. So we find our truth in God and it comes from God. So that's what we're. Look at today we're going to start in Galatians chapter one. We will start with verse 6 today this first five verses are Paul's kind of general greeting. Hey, here's me. It's Paul. We're going to jump in with verse six. It'll be up here. It's bookmarked on your Bibles. We're going to be verses 6 through 10 to start. I'm reading from the NIV translation. As usual. Here we go. I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you to live in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and trying to pervert the Gospel of Christ. But even if we or an Angel from heaven, should preach a gospel other than the one we preach to you. Let them be under God's curse. As we've already said. So now I say again. If anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, let them be under God's curse. Am I now trying to win the approval of human beings or of God? Or am I trying to please people? If I were still trying to please people, I would not be a servant of Christ. We'll stop there for a minute. So Paul gets right to the point? He says he is astonished. That these people are turning to a different gospel. He can't believe it. And turning away here, this would be likened to a revolt. That's the level this is at they're almost revolting from what they knew, and going somewhere else, right, and turning away in this sense, turn away from the gospel isn't just turning away from an idea or a religion. This is turning away from God turning away from the person of God himself, right. And this different gospel, as Paul says. Isn't the one he came and taught? This is not the way of Jesus, so much so that Paul goes quickly to correct himself and gets away from saying different gospel. He's like it's not even a gospel at all. Gospel means good news. So anything that would contradict it or pervert it cannot be good news. Cannot be the gospel. So Paul doesn't give a lot of details about what it is they're following, what's being taught. We kind of know it would be a legalism, like a form of legalistic behavior. Basically, you get in by grace, like you get your salvation by grace, but works, make you stay. In essence, faith is not sufficient. Faith and faith and grace are not sufficient. So that kind of idea. So they're turning. From the Gospel of Jesus to this and in Greek, turning away would be the complete opposite. Think light to dark, so they're going the completely wrong direction, and this is a major crisis to Paul, he says. Anyone at all, and this includes Paul himself, that preaches something other than the Gospel of Jesus is

damned forever. Who the teacher is their status does not matter, and Paul's not just venting. He's just like, man, I'm frustrated. I just gotta get this out. I gotta talk it out. No, he is saying this is a big deal. What he taught is the only true gospel. It's not his version. His interpretation. This is a gospel from God. If we were looking at this in today's terms. And Paul was sending this letter via e-mail, that part would be underlined. All caps with 18 exclamation points. That's the level we're at here. He wants him to know this because there are people out there questioning Paul's message and motives, making him out to be like a church politician, right? He just wants to win favor for, for votes or to rise up the ranks. Saying Paul just wants, you know, people to like what he says and to move him up. And at one point this was Paul. He was a Pharisee and he was boosting his own status. But that's not him anymore. Paul met Christ and everything changed. He became a servant of Christ and his life and his will were devoted. To God. His servanthood to Christ is now freedom from needing to please people. He doesn't have to do that, so he outlines all of this to say, do not turn away from the truth and believe this falsehood. I want to read a little anecdote about truth versus lie, so it's kind of we're getting at is to you make sure we find the truth and don't believe the lies I'm going to read this. I thought it was interesting. Found it from one of those great random sources online that I can't remember, but it was awesome when I looked this. Up. It says this one day a man named truth and a man named Lie stood by a river just outside of town. They were twin brothers, lie challenged. Truth to a race claiming he could swim across the river faster than truth lie laid out the rules to the challenge, stating that they both both must remove all their clothes and at the count of three dive into the freezing cold water, swim to the other side and. Lie counted to three. But when truth jumped in, Lie did not as truth swam across the river lie put on truths, clothes and walked back into town dressed as truth, he proudly paraded around town pretending to be truth. Truth made it back to shore, but his clothes were gone and he was left naked with only lies, clothes to wear. Refusing to dress himself as lie, truth walked back to town. Naked people stared and glared. His naked truth walked through town. He tried to explain what happened and that he was in fact, truth, but because he was naked and uncomfortable to look at, people mocked and shunned him, refusing to believe he was really truth. The people in town chose to believe lie because he was dressed appropriately and easier to look at from that day. Until this, people have come to believe a lie rather than believe the naked truth. So sometimes it's easy to reject. Truth or falsehood? Because it's easier, it seems. Better it might give us more Peace of Mind. Right lies are also sneaky. They they creep in. We have to be aware and on guard against what's true and what's not. So we have to know what's a lie. We have to watch out for falsehood and I'll. Give. A couple of examples of some falsehoods that that can kind of come in, and the first one is straight up false doctrine and we're talking about salvation here, not other, you know, like theological disagreements. We have these in Christianity, little theological things that we

disagree on. Maybe it's baptism or women in ministry or church governments. That's not what we would be getting at. We're talking about like the means of our salvation that we are say. Gift by God's grace. So different things can bring false doctrine. Different religions may have some similarities or same characteristics to Christianity, but deny Jesus or that's that's how we're saved. And that's not all that different from what's happening with the Galatians that you can honor God believe in him, but you have to keep all these rules to really get into heaven. This one, I think what's more common in the false doctrine is what I would call that. It's all a lie. Falsehood being straight up told your beliefs are false. Now, not everyone believes what we believe, and that's actually totally OK we know there are people out there that don't believe what we do. But you may get told that they're right and you are wrong. And sometimes what happens here is I've seen it is fight or flight kicks in. Either we want to fight back and defend and go at them or we just want to completely retreat, run away and say I'm done with you. You're telling what I have is a lie. I get both of those, but I would say is there a middle ground? Try to find like the middle of that. As long as whatever that relationship is isn't hurtful or harmful to you, not to fight back. But don't abandon. I had a roommate in college. We lived in a house. There were five of us. In a three bedroom townhouse that we all kind of piled into, and one of them was a a staunch atheist and he. Knew I. Was a Christian and we disagreed very much on those two things, but we were able to coexist and live together because that was one thing we just kind of. Let's sit. So we kept the relationship. There was a door that was always open. I was able to protect what I believe in. I'd have to give that up, but also not abandoning a relation. So the first kind of falsehood we face is false doctrine. The second one I would describe as false description and this is false description about you and this is where Satan kicks in. He kind of will make you believe that your faith doesn't merit God's grace, that you need more merits to your name to merit God's grace. Make you think it's about works and that you can't do enough. You aren't good enough. You don't deserve God's grace, and you don't get it. The hard part is he's partially right. Right. We don't deserve it. We can't do enough to earn it. But we still get it right. We still get it. The other one is that God wants nothing to do with you because of your faults, right? You've screwed up so bad that God wants no part of you. And this is completely false. God doesn't love our sin and our faults, but he loves us through them and still offers us. Grace again, as we've talked about before, God doesn't need us to be perfect. He doesn't expect us to be. His grace is enough. His grace is sufficient and your faith is enough to make you stay. Anything else is false, and that's what we need to watch out for. So we watch out for the falsehoods. Let's keep going here. In Galatians, we'll read chapter one verses 11 through 14. It says this. I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel I preached is not of human origin. I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it. Rather, I received it by revelation from Jesus Christ. If you have heard of my previous way of life in Judaism, how intensely I persecuted the Church of

God and tried to destroy it. I was advancing in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people and was extremely zealous for the traditions of my fathers. Stopped there. So Paul's really clear here. Again, what he taught the Galatians was not taught to him or given to him from another human source. This would have opened it up to air manipulation or corruption. He received it. He received Christ by direct divine revelation from God. Jesus was revealed to Paul by God. This couldn't be manufactured. It couldn't be recreated, and Paul didn't even choose to have it happen. Paul's walking on the road on the way to Damascus, and God strikes him. Mind. And reveals Jesus to who was chosen for him. Jesus was made known to Paul for Paul to make Jesus known to the Gentiles. And Paul proves the power of this by going into his own past. Paul was a villain to Christianity. Paul was the Joker to Jesus's Batman at this time he persecuted, he arrested, he killed Christian. So God uses Paul's transformation. And that's the point. He was so far the other direction that this transformation what God revealed could only have come from.

God.

And he's not ripping apart Jewish customs at all. He still refers to himself as a Jew many times. But he's realizing that salvation isn't about conforming to the Jewish way of life. It's about God. And about being saved by Jesus, he used to believe and follow that way of conforming to the Jewish way of life, and that was it. But that's not what God wanted. So God sought out Paul and revealed Christ to Paul. God showed Paul his truth. Seeking the truth is important. Going to look for it. I was walking Jeremiah to the bus stop. Was Thursday of this week. He's been checking out this Instagram channel that I've found where there's a bunch of animals and predator videos and stuff, and you'll see these lions going after different different things. And and there was a hippo one and we watched a few where the hippos kind of like would chase things down. And it was terrifying, these big animals. So I don't know what he tells me. That hippos killed the most humans in Africa. It's. I can't believe that like I don't know. So like, alright, maybe, maybe not. Not thinking a lot about it. As we keep going, I'm like, hey, I heard a story from this week actually, where there was a Safari tour bus or van, whatever it was, that an elephant separated from the herd and went and hit this bus with its trunk, knocked it over and a person was actually killed. That the elephant was so strong, was able. To. Do that. He's like, yeah, dude, elephants have 40,000 muscles in their trunks. Like really? Like like, I mean maybe. So I ran these down in my head and. Like oh I'm. Like. I gotta look. It up so from what I can find, there's discrepancy on the hippo thing. From what I can tell, mosquitoes are actually responsible for the most deaths, 1,000,000 because of all the disease they carry. However, hippos are up there. I found a range from that. They kill anywhere from 500 to 3000 humans a year, which is a lot. You're a hippo. The elephant trunk thing. Turns out is true. 40,000 muscles in the trunk compared to 600 in the human body. Think my science is right there.

Here, but the point is this go seek the truth, Jeremiah told me. These things. It's not that I don't believe my son, especially when it comes to animals. But I went to the truth to try to find it. Go to the source. So we seek out God's truth. God is the only provider of truth. Truth comes from God. So we go seek the truth. The 1st way is to seek. God. Go to God and spend time with him. I may sound like a broken record telling you to spend time with God. Well, we're going to shatter that record as we keep going, because that's what we need to do. We have to spend time with God. We're supposed to. We pray, talk to him, ask questions, be annoyingly bothersome to God. He won't actually find you annoying. Be specific. What are you wondering about? Concerned about? Confused about? I can't promise a black and white answer from God, but in my experience, when I've been specific or have certain things on my mind or questions, God revealed something to me, even if it's not in direct answer to that, he's given me something. So we, we pray, we spend time with God that way. Then we read the Bible. Read it like it's new, right? Read it like it's fresh information that you crave. Thinking about scrolling that Twitter feed and you keep refreshing it to see the new information that you're looking for, or you're waiting for. Read it like it's brand new. Let God teach God no, it doesn't mean what you've heard me teach or Julie teach or anybody else. Teach is wrong or bad. But God is always the best. Nature in seminary they taught us to try and clear the room. When you read the Bible and the idea was that anytime we come to a passage of scripture, we have something in our minds. There's other people in the room with us, whether that's a pastor you've heard. So if you went and read Galatians one tomorrow, inevitably in the back of your mind, what I say is in there or anything. Anybody who came up with prior traditions, if I were to open this Bible, it's all highlighted all over the place because I use it for this. They say try to clear that and just let it come from God. God's word is the best source of information and truth about God. So we seek God. The 2nd way to kind of find that truth is be sought by God. Let God seek you out. We may not have this dramatic moment like Paul on the road to Damascus or like Moses. If we remember the burning Bush from Exodus, but we still should be willing to be sought by God. Let him come and find you and be open to his truth. For Paul, who was Saul at the time, this involved turning from an old way of life. He had a radical transformation because he allowed himself to be transformed by God's truth. He didn't fight it. And what was revealed to him? What was asked of him probably seemed crazy, and it might have seemed really hard. Don't fight God's truth because it seems hard. With God, you can do hard things. Let him and his truth seek you out. And this is a current and future kind of thing, because the past doesn't matter. Look at Paul's past. God's truth is always transformative and life changing. And it takes us from our past. There is power in those changes and transformations, and God is in those with his truth. So we seek the truth and we let that truth. Let's finish up chapter one here. It's Galatians 1:15 through 24. But when God who set me apart from my mother's womb and called me by his grace, was pleased to

reveal his son and me so that I might preach him among the Gentiles, my immediate response was not to consult any human being. I did not go up to Jerusalem to see those who were apostles. Before, I was, but I went to Arabia. Later, I returned to Damascus. Then, after three years, I went up to Jerusalem to get acquainted with Cephus and stayed within 15 days. I saw none of the other apostles, only James the Lord's brother. I assure you, before God, that what I am writing is no lie, that I went to Syria and Cilicia. I was personally unknown to the churches of Judea that that are in Christ. They only heard the report. The man who formally persecuted us is now preaching the faith he once tried to destroy and they praised God because of me. Alright, so Paul had to. Take in God's truth for him, he received a revelation from God. It was a huge deal. There's a big change coming to his life. He may not have totally understood it. But he didn't race off to go consult another person to go consult a human authority. He didn't go to some big Christian bigwig like Peter or James. He didn't race off. You know, if you're at work and go up to the 4th floor and middle management or upper management, try to figure out what's going on. On didn't do that. He went to God, right. The way and he's telling the people this to combat the idea that he's just a Jerusalem apostle, that he's there, that Peter put him kind of up to what he's doing. And Paul's just kind of going rogue. He's like, no, this is straight from God. This is a revelation from God to Paul about Paul's life. So then Paul goes to Arabia to spend time with God. He doesn't go out and hang out with a bunch of other Christians right away, and we don't know much about his time these years when he's away. But it's between him and God. That's the important part is he is going to spend time. God, he had to to figure out what all of this means for him. God graced him with this revelation, this gift he gave Paul a clear picture of who Jesus truly was and truly is. And Paul needed to flesh that out. Then, after three years, he goes to see Peter. It says Cephus there Cephus be the Aramaic. Peter being the Greek same guy. Peter is the Big deal pillar of the Christian Church, so Paul wants to meet him and learn from him. But he is very clear he's not taking a role as a subordinate or disciple of Peter, right? This is only from God. He's not getting an assignment or a role from Peter. They're just going to kind of meet each other. And again, no real. Info about this meeting, probably because of all Paul needs to say is hey, I met him briefly, maybe saw James. That was it because it's still just about Paul and God and the truth that God gave Paul. He's like this is no lie. This is all that happened. That's what it was. Then he went on and goes to all these other places he mentioned, though he was probably unknown by face. If they saw him, they didn't know who he was, but they knew the reputation. The persecutor of the church. But now they know that this big persecutor villain of the church is the other way is preaching the gospel and they're praising God for it. They're praising God for the truth that Paul is living out in his life. The truth of God has become the star in Paul's life. The star. Are we? We watch a fair amount of cooking shows at home and in all the competition shows they kind of give you a challenge and a lot of



times an ingredient, maybe one ingredient, say make this the star of your dish around the holidays. I remember seeing them, you know, they might throw in cranberries or chestnuts and that's the goal that has to be what shines or what's the star of whatever they're making and it's challenging. Because some of these things might be more served as a side or used as an accent or something like that to the dish. But the point is you can't let other things overpower that. That ingredient needs to be the star. God's truth needs to be the star of the dish. That is our lives. We need to make it the star by living out his truth in our lives. So we want to live God's truth. Paul lived out his truth by going away for a while and then going to hang out with Peter for a. He lived his truth both individually and in community, and we should do the same. So we start with it individually. We live out our truth individually, how we live our personal lives as living our truth. Does how you live mirror the truth that you found and believe in. Now, of course, we're gonna make mistakes and we aren't perfect, but talking kind of from an overarching perspective, are you living your truth, living a life that honors God? Because whether we like it or not, it's fair or not. How we live? Is going to affect the way people see Jesus and other Christians. They will form an opinion that way based on how Christians live. So we want to live in a way that reflects who Jesus truly is. There's a quote from Gandhi that says I like your Christ, but I don't like your Christians. And it's he's basically saying, like, I like who this Jesus guy is and what he's about. But the people that I've met that say they follow him don't reflect that aren't the same like that. You know, like that. So I get why he feels that way. But it's problematic. Our lives should reflect the God that we seek and are sought by. So we have to live that life. We should reflect the truth of God, and it's not about being flashy with. It having one liners or posting all the verses to Instagram or anything like that. That's all fine if we do that, but it's more about how we live and interact with people on a day-to-day basis. Live that truth. It can be hard. I get that. But when we seek God and we find God, it's not that complicated and God is with us. When. We do. Do it. So we live out our truth individually. It's also really helpful to live out our truth in community here. Paul eventually goes to other Christians in Jerusalem and then to the other churches of Christ. And he doesn't go to teach or pre tread away. He's there to just be together to learn from one another. We can grow by seeing how others are living out God's truth in their lives. That's really helpful, right? It's not just in being taught by somebody, right. Like, I hope what I say up here is helpful, but what's more helpful is seeing how each. There are living out the truth. God is putting our lives. That's why Christian community is so important. Because the way God is working things out in my life is different from each and every one of you. And that's a good thing because we can encourage each other and learn from each other all of our lives, all the transformations God is doing will look different, but then they're all leading us to being closer to him and becoming. More Christ like so being in community helps us see that there is no substitute. For Christian community, there's a big church out in Portland OR called Bridgetown that I

believe just a couple of weeks ago made a big announcement that they are no longer live streaming their full service and they have the capability to do that. They have a bunch of people, volunteers, everything. And I kind of listened to the rationale behind it. I listened to a quick video. From their pastor, guy named Tyler Seth. And he talks about how their mission, their vision, is to live out community and he multiple times in this video says find that local Christian community find that local church community find your local church. That's what's so important. The importance of the local church will keep live streaming their services. That's not necessarily something for us. But I thought that was so interesting. He kept talking about the local church community because being together is important. Sunday mornings, weekly small groups, other parts of your life live out God's truth individually, but also in community. We live out God's truth. God's truth is available to us. It's there and we can find it, and we have it. What's hard? Is there a variety of things in life that will try to pull it from us or pull us from the truth? So we want to resist straying from the truth. Find those falsehoods, see them, and push back against the falsehoods. And then seek God and seek his truth. Read the Bible and then listen. Listen and be sought out by God with what he has to say for you. And then live out the truth in your own life. Let your life reflect the truth that you believe in, and hold on to you. And do it in community right here. We weren't created to be alone. We just we weren't. We don't have to be. So we live out our truth with others, right. And that helps because remember, truth isn't just in the eye of the beholder. It's in the eyes of God. So let's live. Out that truth and let's pray. Gotta thank you for today. I think that we could be here and just start this this letter to. The galatians. And God, I think that we have the truth, the truth of the gospel God in your truth right here in front of us. And I pray that that would be something we all hold to, and that when it's hard. That we would remain strong and faithful and we would come to you to seek you and to hold on to that. And God, I pray that you would continue to seek each of us out. And I pray that we would remember how important it is to live out our truth in our own Lives, God, and how important it is. To live it out in community with each other that we have each other. And there's a reason that you put us together. So, God, I pray that again you would continually seek us out. Reveal your truth to us and that would be something that we would hold to your name. Amen.