

GLC  ESSENTIALS

GALATIANS

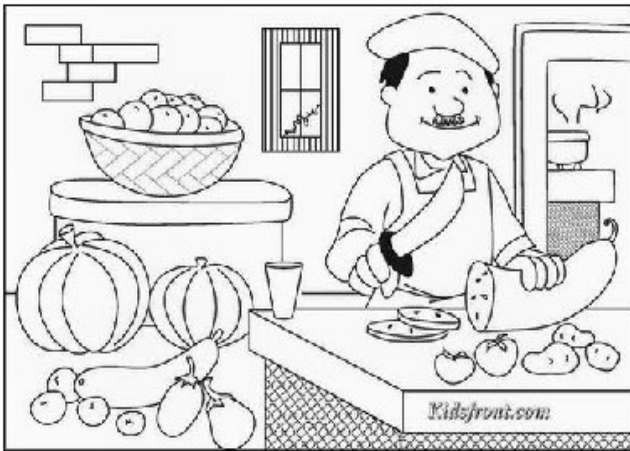
Session 2

EXPLORE

Spot the Difference

How well can you recognize variation of the real thing? Try this fun activity to find out!

By pairs, work on spotting the difference between the two pictures below. Draw a mark on the second drawing to indicate where the differences are from the first drawing. Give yourselves 5 minutes to complete this activity. (Turn to Appendix A to check for the correct answers.)

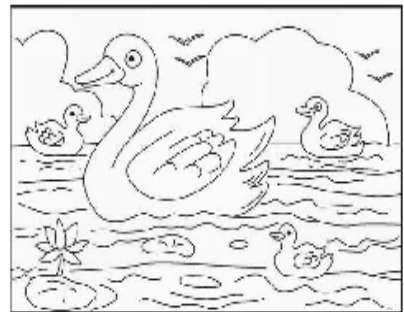
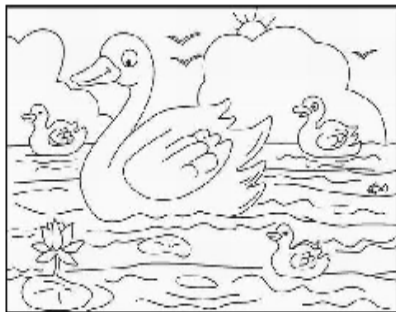


Share your answers to the following questions in your small group:

1. What helped you spot the differences?

2. What made it difficult for you?

Just for FUN! Here are more Spot-the-Difference materials for you to enjoy on your next weekend off! (Turn to Appendix B for the correct answers.)



EXAMINE

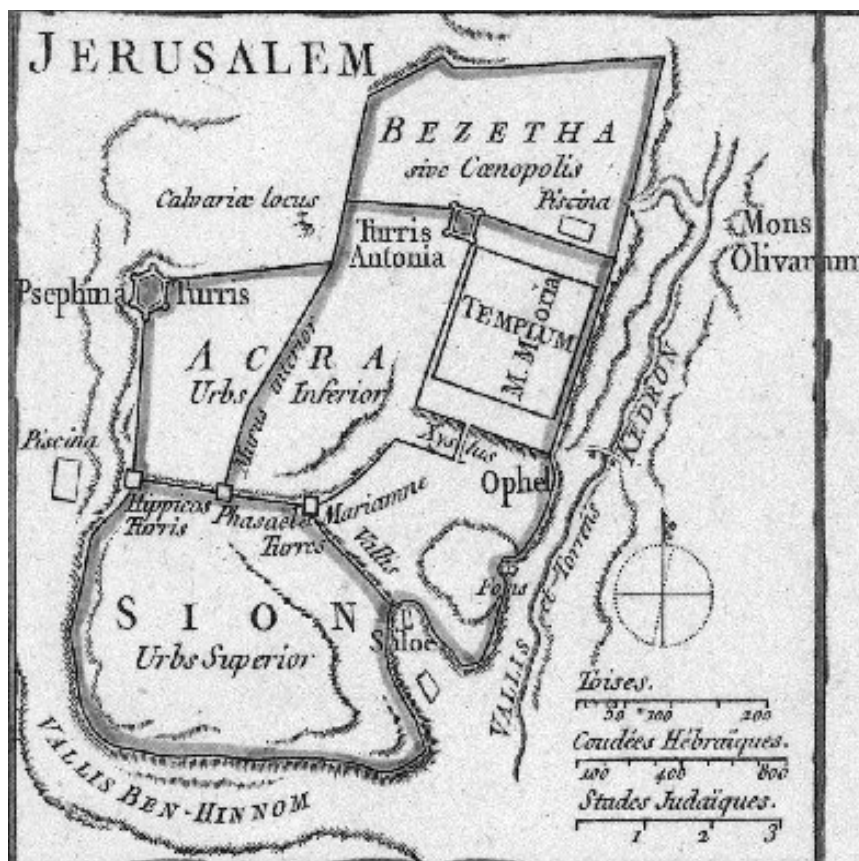
In Galatians 1, Paul defined the true gospel strongly stating that no one can change the gospel without being **“ACCURSED”**.

In Chapter 2...
Paul continues to defend the gospel by mentioning his experiences with the pillars of the church.

CHAPTER OUTLINE

SECTION	TOPIC
Verses 1-10	Paul's Experience with the Leaders
Verses 11-15	Paul's Encounter with Peter
Verses 16-21	Paul's Explanation of the Gospel

In Jerusalem, Paul sought confirmation from the church leaders that what he was preaching was indeed the gospel.



During Paul's time, people were saying,

“It's not enough to put your faith in Jesus – that's too simple, it's not enough!”

The Great Debate:

Faith in Jesus
+ nothing
= Salvation → resulting in good works

Faith in Jesus
+ good works
(rituals, tradition, obeying the law)
= Salvation

Which side of the debate are you on? Write down your reasons for picking your side:

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3. What can we learn from Galatians 2:5?

Note

An illustration about knowing the real thing:

At the NBI agents' training to learn how to detect counterfeit peso bills, their trainees have to go to the Central Bank and handle real bills for one week. After that, they can easily detect counterfeit bills!

If you focus on the truth in the Bible, when somebody comes and teaches you something that is not true, you will know it is counterfeit immediately.

Read, write down, draw/illustrate key ideas or make a mind map of Galatians 2:6–10:

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4. What was the conclusion of the apostles in Jerusalem concerning the gospel that Paul taught?

Notice that the church leaders only asked Paul to remember the poor, which he says was “the very thing I was eager to do.”

The gospel of grace does not neglect good works!

Instead, the Bible is saying “You are saved by faith in Christ, not by any other additional effort/activity on your part. But now that you are saved, you are to do good works to give glory to our Heavenly Father.”

II. Paul's Encounter with Peter

Read, write down, draw/illustrate key ideas or make a mind map of Galatians 2:11-14:

5. What was the situation with Peter that Paul had to deal with?
Optional Group Activity: Ask for volunteers to act out the scene in Galatians 2:11-14. No need to memorize lines, just have a narrator do a voice over.

**No leader
is infallible.
They all need
to be accountable
to others.**

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6. Why do you think Paul corrected Peter in public rather than in private?

Note

Principle:

Peter as a leader of the church set a bad example (hypocrisy) to others when he compromised the truth of the gospel. When a sin is...

Public, the offender has to be corrected publicly.

Private, then the correction has to be done privately.

7. Why do you think this ought to be so?
8. If you were in Peter's place, how would you respond?
9. How did Peter respond to Paul's correction? See 2 Peter 3:15 for a look into Peter's motivation for responding the way he did.

III. Paul's Explanation of the Gospel

Read, write down, draw/illustrate key ideas or make a mind map of Galatians 2:15-16.

10. How is a man justified?

Note

“Justified” means to be declared “NOT guilty.”

11. How did Paul describe himself and the kind of life he was living?

12. What was Paul's conclusion about the gospel?

“No longer I but Christ!”

“I have been crucified with Christ
and I no longer live but Christ lives in me.
The life I live in the body I live by faith
in the Son of God who loved me and
gave Himself for me.”

Galatians 2:20

EXPRESS

Doodle/draw your thoughts or create a mind map on what you discovered from Galatians 2 about the true gospel. Share your output with a partner and/or to your entire small group.

Journal your thoughts on what you discovered from Galatians 2 focusing on Paul's experience with the leaders, his encounter with Peter and his explanation of the gospel. Share with your small group members a summary of what you wrote down.

What impacted you from the lesson you just learned?

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What do you think Paul meant when he said, "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live"?

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How does it look like if you live by faith for Him who died for you and gave Himself for you?

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EXPERIENCE

1. Think back on what the apostle Paul did during his encounter with the apostle Peter in Jerusalem. In his case, Paul defended the integrity of the gospel of Jesus Christ by confronting Peter of his wrong attitude and action towards the Gentile believers. Paul regarded God's truth as more important and as the standard for right attitude and action over Peter's position as a church leader.

Note

In your case, whose authority and whose standard do you uphold above all else in matters of what you believe in, your attitude and actions?

When our human leaders' actions or teachings go against God's truth found in the Bible, who do you think should be our final authority? (See Acts 4:15-21 for an example of how the apostles acted under a similar situation).

Now search your heart and check if there is something that you believe in, or an attitude that you have or a behavior that clearly contradicts the message of the true gospel. What will you do about it within the next 7 days?

2. Random Acts of Kindness

Time Frame: 3 weeks

As Paul and the apostles wanted to make sure that the followers of Jesus not neglect the practical needs of others as they spread the true gospel, we also ought to show kindness to others as we share our faith in Christ to them.

- A. Pray** – Make a list of five people who you want to pray for within the next 3 weeks that they may know Jesus as Savior and become Christ-committed followers.

Pray for them beyond the three weeks!

- B. Care** – Think of at least one act of kindness that you can show to each of these 5 people. If they are married and/or have children, it would be a good idea to include their family members in your plan. Examples of acts of kindness are:

1. Get to know them and their concerns over a meal or coffee and pay for their share.
2. Give them a small gift or token that you know will encourage them or brighten their day.
3. Give them a ride to a Sunday worship service if they agree to visit CCF with you.
4. Help them address a concern at work or in a relationship.
5. Give a bag of groceries.

Do these acts of kindness to your five family members, friends, or colleagues not only for three weeks but for the rest of the year!

- C. Share** – As you interact with the people you are praying and caring for, maximize opportunities to share the simple truth of the gospel to them. As you get involved in their lives, you will be able to not only help meet practical needs but their deepest and greatest need – to be forgiven of their sins and be reconciled with God who loved them and gave Himself to them.

Use the cards below to give along with gifts, tokens, food items, etc. to the people you have in your Pray-Care-Share list.

<p>And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28 (ESV Bible)</p>	<p>Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Matthew 11:28 (ESV Bible)</p>	<p>The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Psalm 23:1-3 (ESV Bible)</p>	<p>"We love because He first loved us." 1 John 4:19 (ESV Bible)</p>	<p>"Every good and every perfect gift comes from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change." James 1:17 (ESV Bible)</p>
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