SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY — Galatians 1:1–12

Theme: Freedom in Christ and Staying True to the Gospel

Main Idea:

True freedom is found only in the gospel of Jesus Christ. When we turn to other "gospels," we lose sight of the grace that sets us free.

Opening Question

• What comes to mind when you hear the phrase "freedom in Christ"? How is it different from how the world defines freedom?

Read Galatians 1:1–12 Together

Observation & Understanding

- 1. How does Paul introduce himself in verses 1–2, and why is his authority as an apostle important to his message?
- 2. What problem is Paul addressing with the Galatian churches (vv. 6–7)?
- 3. Paul speaks very strongly about those who distort the gospel. Why do you think he uses such intense language (vv. 8–9)?
- 4. In verse 10, Paul contrasts pleasing people and pleasing God. What does this reveal about the nature of true gospel ministry?

Reflection & Application

- 1. What "other gospels" might tempt believers today—ideas that distort the freedom Christ gives?
- 2. How can even good things (traditions, cultural values, personal success) become substitutes for the true gospel?
- 3. Paul insists that the gospel he preached came directly from Jesus (vv. 11–12). How does this truth give us confidence and freedom?
- 4. What does it look like in daily life to "stand firm" in the gospel rather than drift toward legalism, performance, or self-reliance?
- 5. How can we as a community help one another stay centered on the freedom we have in Christ?

Prayer Focus

- Thank God for the gift of the gospel that brings true freedom.
- Ask the Spirit to reveal any "false gospels" or pressures that pull you away from grace.
- Pray for boldness to live and share the good news of Jesus with clarity and conviction.