

Small Group Bible Study – Galatians 3:23–29

Theme: United in Christ

Opening

- Begin with prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to open hearts and minds to understand God's vision for unity in Christ.
 - Optional icebreaker: *What's one group, club, or community you've belonged to that made you feel like you truly "belonged"? What made that community meaningful?*
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Read the Passage Aloud

 **Galatians 3:23–29**

Before the coming of this faith, we were held in custody under the law, locked up until the faith that was to come would be revealed. So the law was our guardian until Christ came that we might be justified by faith. Now that this faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian. So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Observation – What Does It Say?

1. How does Paul describe the role of the law before Christ came (vv. 23–25)?
 2. What happens now that faith in Christ has come?
 3. What does Paul mean when he says believers have “clothed themselves with Christ” (v. 27)?
 4. What distinctions does Paul mention that are no longer dividing lines in Christ (v. 28)?
 5. How does verse 29 connect Gentile believers to God's promises to Abraham?
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Interpretation – What Does It Mean?

1. What does it mean to be “children of God through faith in Christ Jesus”?
2. How does “clothing ourselves with Christ” change our identity and relationships with others?

3. Why do you think Paul highlights social, ethnic, and gender distinctions (Jew/Gentile, slave/free, male/female)?
 4. How radical would this message have sounded in the first-century world — and why?
 5. What does it mean for believers to be “heirs according to the promise”? What is that promise?
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Application – How Does It Apply to Us?

1. In what ways do we still struggle to live out the truth that we are “one in Christ”?
 2. Are there barriers (cultural, racial, economic, gender-related, denominational) that divide believers today? How might this passage challenge us to respond?
 3. How can your small group or church embody the unity described in verse 28 more fully?
 4. What does it practically look like to “clothe yourself with Christ” in your daily interactions?
 5. How might living out our shared identity as God’s children transform how we see and treat others — both within and outside the church?
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Closing Reflection

- Read **Galatians 3:28** again slowly and reflect:
“For you are all one in Christ Jesus.”
What might it look like if we truly believed and lived this truth in our community?
 - End with a time of prayer — thanking God for uniting us in Christ, and asking for grace to live as one family in His kingdom.
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Optional Extension

For deeper discussion next time, read **Ephesians 2:11–22**, which explores how Christ breaks down dividing walls to make one new humanity.