



**October 30, 2011 • Pastor Justin Ross**

## **Part 3— It's Good to be Accepted**

**Galatians 2:1-10**

### **1. It's good to be in agreement.**

"I went there because God revealed to me that I should go. While I was there I met privately with those considered to be leaders of the church and shared with them the message I had been preaching to the Gentiles. I wanted to make sure that we were in agreement, for fear that all my efforts had been wasted and I was running the race for nothing. And they supported me and did not even demand that my companion Titus be circumcised, though he was a Gentile."

~ Galatians 2:2-3 (NLT)

"How wonderful and pleasant it is when brothers live together in harmony!"

~ Psalm 133:1 (NLT)

"Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace." ~ Ephesians 4:3 (NLT)

### **2. Religion brings bondage. Jesus brings freedom.**

"Even that question came up only because of some so-called Christians there— false ones, really— who were secretly brought in. They sneaked in to spy on us and take away the freedom we have in Christ Jesus. They wanted to enslave us and force us to follow their Jewish regulations. But we refused to give in to them for a single moment. We wanted to preserve the truth of the gospel message for you." ~ Galatians 2:4-5 (NLT)

- Be very, very careful of those who are making up rules that can't be found in the Scriptures. Don't follow them.
- Same doctrines / different methods.

### **3. PhDs are great but don't let them scare you.**

"And the leaders of the church had nothing to add to what I was preaching. (By the way, their reputation as great leaders made no difference to me, for God has no favorites.) Instead, they saw that God had given me the responsibility of preaching the gospel to the Gentiles, just as he had given Peter the responsibility of preaching to the Jews. For the same God who worked through Peter as the apostle to the Jews also worked through me as the apostle to the Gentiles."

~ Galatians 2:6-8 (NLT)

- At the end of the day it's all about Jesus!

### **4. It's good to be accepted.**

"In fact, James, Peter, and John, who were known as pillars of the church, recognized the gift God had given me, and they accepted Barnabas and me as their co-workers. They encouraged us to keep preaching to the Gentiles, while they continued their work with the Jews. Their only suggestion was that we keep on helping the poor, which I have always been eager to do."

~ Galatians 2:9-10 (NLT)