



SESSION 4 | GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

GOSPEL IDENTITY – FINDING OUR IDENTITY IN CHRIST

GET STARTED

- In your family, how far back can you trace your spiritual roots?
- Have you ever received an interesting or valuable inheritance? Do you have some items that you would like to hand down to future generations in your family?

TAKE IT IN

- Watch Session 4: Gospel Identity at mynorthside.com/galatians. **What encouraged or challenged you from the video and/or daily study guide this week?**
- We're at the halfway point of the *Galatians: Bigger, Bolder, Better* study! Reflect back over what you have learned in the past 3 sessions. **What has been the most impactful thing so far? Why does that stand out to you?**

TALK IT OVER

Read Galatians 3:26-4:7

- Look back over the passage, paying attention to the references to Jesus. **What are all the things that happen in, with, and through Jesus?**
- J. I. Packer writes, "If you want to judge how well a person understands Christianity, find out how much he makes of the thought of being God's child and having God as his Father. If this is not the thought that prompts and controls worship and prayers and his whole outlook on life, it means that he does not understand Christianity very well at all."¹⁰ **How does it make you feel that you are a beloved son or daughter of God? How does this truth impact the way you view yourself? How does this impact the way you view God?**
- Through faith, we are not just adopted into the family. We are given a new identity filled with the Holy Spirit and an inheritance of eternity with God. Read through the *Identity as an Adopted Child of God* resource (pg. 125). **Of all these characteristics and promises, which encourage and stand out to you? Why?**
- Verse 28 reminds us that God loves us unconditionally, regardless of race, social status, or gender. **What difference does it make in a relationship when love or approval is conditional? What difference does it make when you know that you are loved unconditionally?**

¹⁰ J.I. Packer, *Knowing God* (InterVarsity, 1973), 201.

Read Galatians 4:8-20

- Through this letter, Paul is passionately trying to course-correct and realign the Galatians with the Gospel. **Have you ever witnessed someone drift away from the truth of Jesus Christ over time? How did it make you feel? What kind of response did it prompt in you?**
- Think about the family and friends entrusted to you. **How deeply do you care about the spiritual welfare of those around you (v.19)? How can you be more intentional about caring for the spiritual growth of others?**
- Godly character and identity comes from God. The only way that we receive it is by listening, learning, and spending time with our Heavenly Father. **What are some of the obstacles that keep you from spending time with God and depending on Him? What can you do this week to grow in deepening your relationship with God? As a group, how can we help?**

Read Galatians 4:21-31

- Paul again reminds the Galatians that it is through God's promises that we receive salvation and not upon our own efforts. It is interesting to note that the persecution of believers born by God's promise is not from unbelievers (v.29). It is coming from believers relying on religious practices and legalism. **Within God's family, how do we often tear each other down? How should we build each other up? As a group, how can we intentionally deepen our community to help each other grow as followers of Jesus?**

LIVE IT OUT

In what ways do you struggle to live in your identity as a son or daughter of God? Reflect back over the *Identity as an Adopted Child of God* resource (pg. 125). Is there an area God is calling you to purposefully live out as His child. With these truths in mind, who do you need to remind of their status as a child of God?

Daily Bible Study: Take 30 minutes each day to complete the daily study guide. Don't think of it as homework, but relational time growing alongside your Heavenly Father. Your time with God will transform you and help encourage others. Come ready to discuss what you are learning at the next group session.

The Fruit Of The Spirit: In preparation for Session 5, complete the *Fruit Of The Spirit In Our Lives* exercise (pg. 126-133).

Memorize: *So you are no longer a slave, but God's child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.*

– **Galatians 4:7**