2023-2024 Fall Quarter Unit II: Faith Triumphs, Law Fails

Justified By Faith, Not Laws Bible Background: Galatians 2:11-21 Printed Text: Galatians 2:11-21 KJV/NIV Devotional Reading: Galatians 2:1-10

Prayer: Our blessed Redeemer, we desire to walk in Your will. The pulls from peers and the world's judgment sometimes draws us out of Your will. Strengthen our resolve to be the servants You will have us to be. We know that You see all and know all. Remove all fears and embolden us to operate in faith and love. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

Unifying Lesson Principle:

- 1. Some people behave a certain way with their friends and behave differently with their co-workers or those they want to impress. *Is there anything that can override our inconsistencies?* Paul rebuked Peter's inconsistency with regard to welcoming Gentiles as a way of encouraging the Galatians to rely on faith in Christ above works of the Law.
 - a. Be real with the relationship I have with Jesus. Ensure my character is the same regardless of who's around. Be concerned only with what God thinks. (Galatians 1:6-10; Revelation 3:15-22)

Lesson Objectives:

- 1. Compare and contrast justification by faith and justification by law.
- 2. Cultivate a love of living in Christ.
- 3. Identify concrete behaviors that characterize a life guided by faith in Christ.

Devotional Reading: Saturday: The Gospel for All People – Galatians 2:1-10

• Don't neglect studying, learning, and growing in Jesus Christ, while the zeal is still there. Are my action(s) in communicating the Gospel building up or tearing down the church? God doesn't rate us according to title, position, or status, but what's in the heart. (1 Samuel 16:7; 1 Chronicles 28:9; Luke 16:15)

Exposition and Application of the Scripture: We Are Justified in Christ – Galatians 2:11-21

A. Paul confronts Cephas/Peter (vv. 11-14) – Hosea 5:1-6; Acts 10:25-28; Titus 1:10-16

• Do I know enough of God's word to not be fooled? Compromising the Gospel causes confusion, division, and discord. Do I have enough Jesus in me to confront a fellow believer before they hurt themselves or the church spiritually? My walk with Jesus must not distort the message of the Gospel.

B. Justification by Faith (vv. 15-16) – Acts 15:7-11; Romans 1:16-17, 5:1-5; Ephesians 2:1-10

• The Law doesn't make us acceptable to the Lord. Name three (3) ways the Law plays a role in our Christian journey. Living inconsistent in the Gospel weakens my faith and become stumbling block for others. Actions cannot be self-serving, and words should be validated by those actions.

C. Justification, Not Endorsement (vv. 17-18) – 2 Corinthians 7:9-11; Romans 7:4-6

• When I died to sin, the Law still exists for moral, ceremonial, and sacrificial works. Legalism breaks down the relationship with Jesus Christ.

D. A New Life in Christ (vv. 19-21) – 2 Corinthians 5:14-21

• My life in Jesus Christ must be reflective by my works, which is produced by faith. Salvation only comes through Jesus Christ and not the Law. A new life in Christ doesn't stop sin, but equips me to sin less. Don't compromise convictions in Jesus to appease the bench warmers and nay sayers.

^{**}Note – Sunday School Lessons originate out of the Sunday School Commentary Based on the International Lessons Series** https://www.sspbnbc.com/product-category/curriculum/sunday-school-series/sunday-school-commentaries/