

Sunday, May 25, 2025

SAVED BY FAITH

Galatians 1:13-17; 2:11-21

KIDS
3RD-6TH

NL

Key Verse:

Yet we know that a person is justified not by the works of the law
but through faith in Jesus Christ.

Galatians 2:16

The Point:

God loves us no matter what.

Making Connections:

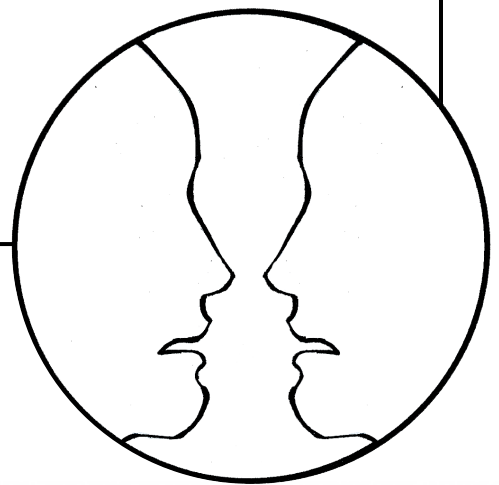
Birth of the Church

Bible Nuts & Bolts:

Letters

Spiritual Practice:

Fellowship



BACKGROUND

Making Connections

As the early church grew, apostles went from place to place spreading the good news. Each place had its own challenges: different cultures to respond to, different local governments, and different leaders trying to tell people the good news about Jesus. In today's Scripture, Paul is writing back to a congregation that he had started in Galatia (in modern Turkey). After Paul left to start more churches, other teachers had come to the congregation, and they had a different approach about how to include Gentiles in the church, the controversy from the previous lesson. He is writing to clarify to them how he believes God's love should be shown.

Story Summary:

Saved by Faith

As today's passage begins, Paul is reminding the Galatians of how he came to believe in Jesus. Originally, as a zealous Jew, he persecuted the early Christians. Then, Jesus revealed himself to Paul (then using his Hebrew name Saul), and Paul's purpose became sharing this gospel (good news) with the Gentiles.

Paul writes about how he became angry with Cephas (also called Peter). At the beginning, Peter ate with the Gentiles, not separately as was Jewish custom. But when other Jewish Christians came, he stopped eating with them and remained separate. Others started following Peter's example.

Paul reminds Peter and the Galatians that a right relationship with God does not come through anything we do but through trusting Jesus. Therefore, it does not matter if one follows or does not follow the Jewish laws. What matters is God's love for us—something we can trust with our whole beings.

The Point

God loves us not matter what. God loves us so much and so unconditionally that we can say that God is love. Much of our lives are spent worrying about whether or not we are making the right choice. We can each take comfort in the fact that God's love for us is constant and powerful and is not affected by our actions.

Bible Nuts & Bolts:

Letters

Today's Scripture is from Galatians, one of the many letters that make up the New Testament. The letters are often written to particular congregations (in the cities of Galatia, Ephesus, Philippi, etc.), while some are written to a broader audience (1 John, 2 John, etc.). While exploring these letters, it is important to take into account the author, and what it is that prompts the writing of the particular letter. They are written in response to a specific situation, revealing much about how the theology and history of the early church were applied.

Spiritual Practice: Fellowship

In any community that is going to grow and last, there must be much careful attention paid to building strong relationships. The act of building these relationships is known as fellowship. What do we do in our communities to form connections with each other? One way to form relationship is to see how a common purpose might unite us. Just as early church congregations worked to identify their common purpose, so today we must look at how our mission helps connect our congregations.



The Transformer

"The man who formerly persecuted us is now preaching the faith he once tried to destroy." Galatians 1:23 (NIV)

Based on Galatians 1:11-24



U L W C H U R C H I W U D D S
H F B N G R A C E M F E V K N
F P B L D R N Y Q N V A H A I
C E R D E R F D X I T R F K V
F R O C S L W S E R Y C O G V
F S T I T O I C O M U U U D T
A E H I R R E P B Q T N E P F
I C E X O R E M J L K L D N L
T U R E Y R R P H E L V R F H
H T S X R B G J B A S C W C P
I E T X U G R F C S T U A F R
P D U R C H R I S T Z E S U H
A P O S T L E S C Z R F X W G
T G Y V Y E G O S P E L L I E
C F X O M N N Z P I A E F A N

LIE
APOSTLES
GRACE

JESUS
BROTHERS
GOSPEL

DESTROY
CALLED
CHURCH

RECEIVED
PERSECUTED
PREACH

CHRIST
REPORT
FAITH



WE

LIVE

By

FAITH

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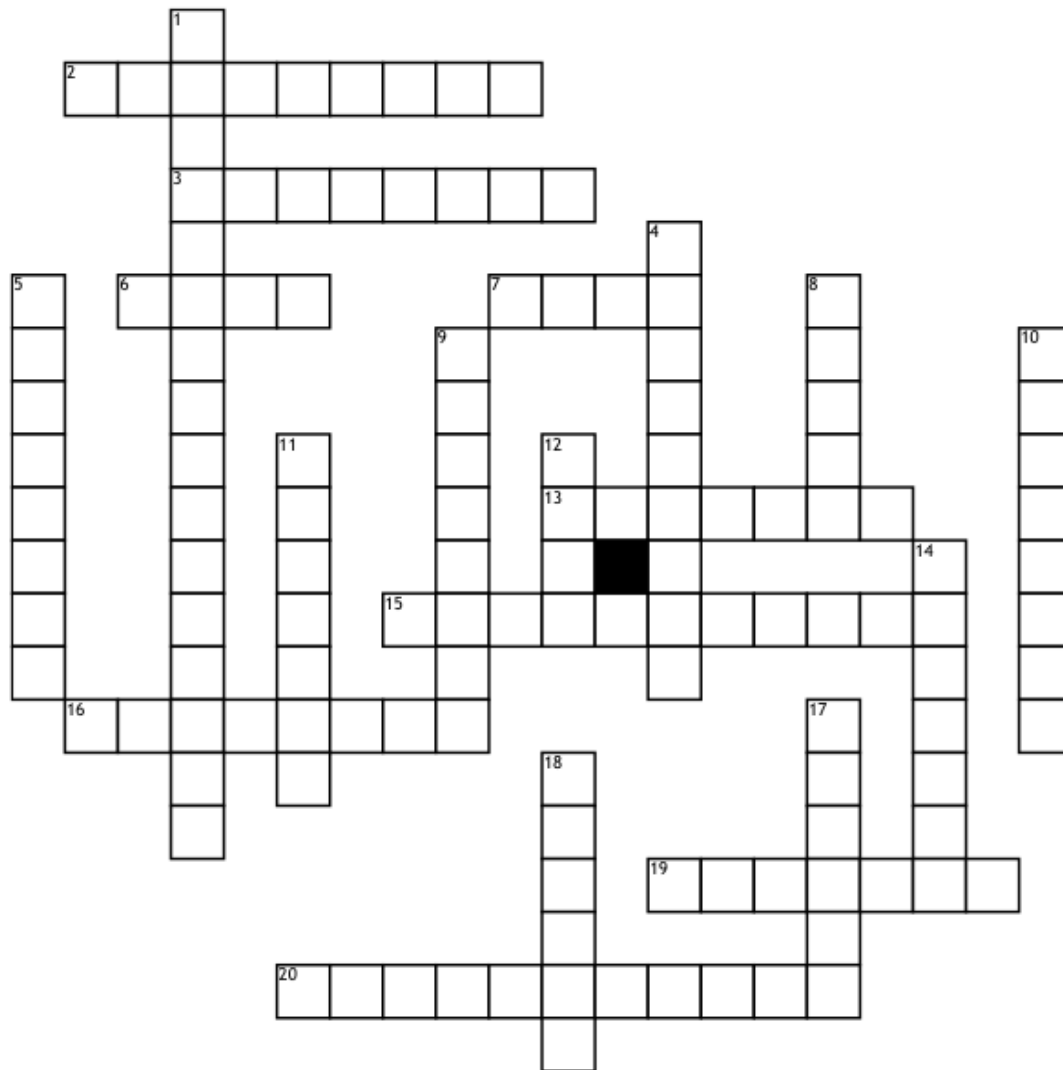
GALATIANS
2:20

GALATIANS SCAVENGER HUNT

USE YOUR BIBLE...

- ☐ How many chapters are in Galatians? _____
- ☐ What book comes before Galatians? _____
- ☐ At the beginning of Chapter 1, it says that Paul is writing this book to the churches in what city? _____
- ☐ In Chapter 2, who does it say Paul opposes? _____
- ☐ In 3:26, it says that we are all children of God through _____?
- ☐ Chapter 5 tells us that we have freedom in what? _____
- ☐ Galatians 5:7 says that we are running a _____ race? _____
- ☐ What does Paul say love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control are in 5:22? _____
- ☐ How many verses are in Chapter 6? _____
- ☐ What book comes after Galatians? _____

Galatians



Across

2. Where did Paul and Barnabas meet with the apostles?
 3. One of the sins of the flesh?
 6. Who did the apostles remind Paul to teach the Galatians to remember?
 7. Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also ____?
 13. What city were Jesus' followers first called Christians?
 15. One of the sins against purity?

16. Who traveled with Paul to Galatia?

19. Man that walks in the Spirit of Sin?
 20. One of the worldly sins?

Down

1. The spiritual man lives by the?
 4. This man walks in the light of God?
 5. What does Gospel mean?
 8. Who was the younger half brother?
 9. One of the sins of attitudes?

10. Where was Paul headed when Jesus spoke to him?

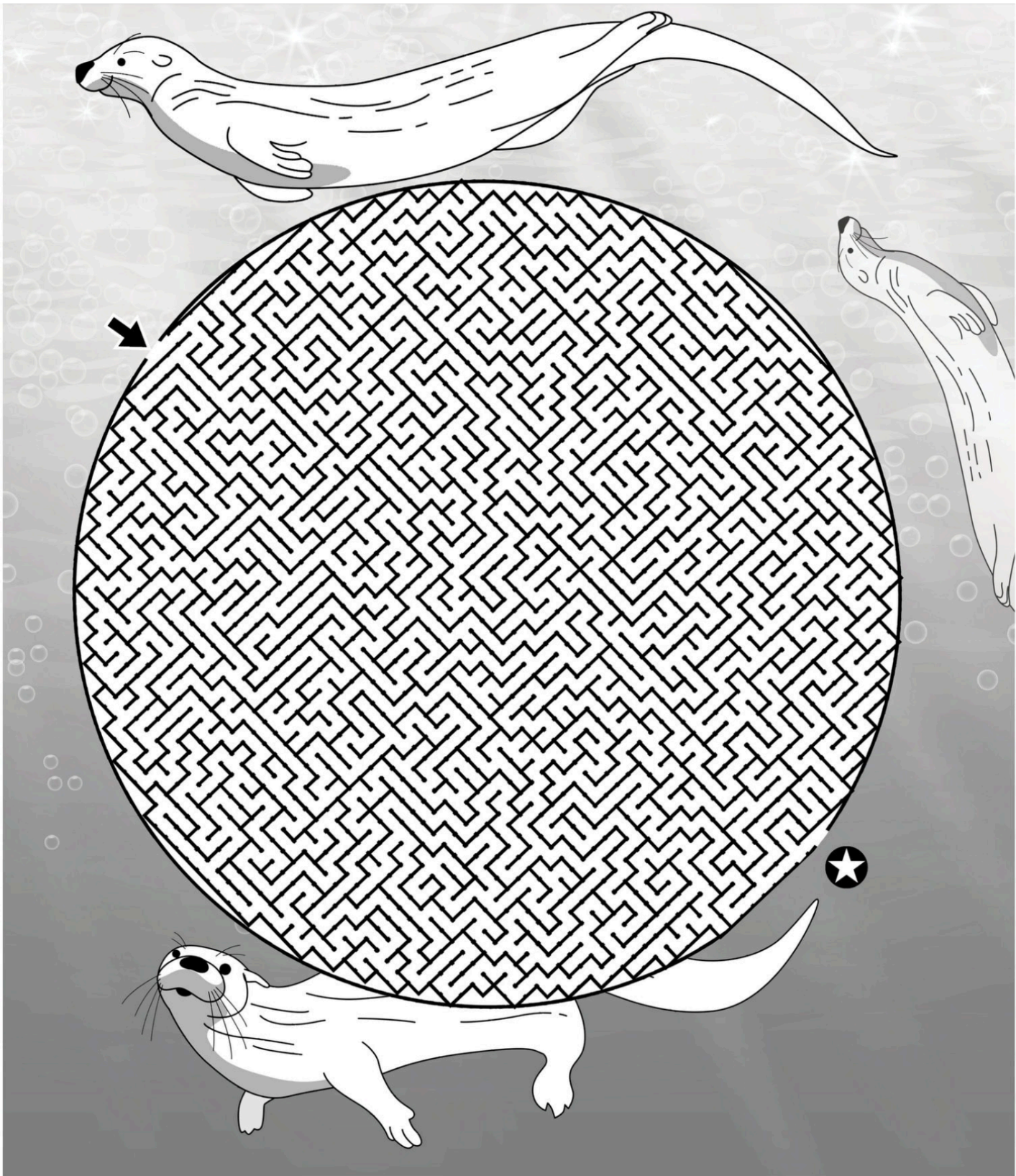
11. What Old Testament character is a great example of faith?

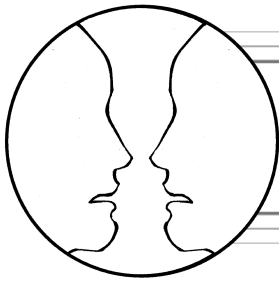
12. Who wrote the letter to the Galatians.

14. Who was the older half brother?

17. What city was Paul born in?

18. What did the leaders send back to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas?





THE STORY @ HOME

**KIDS
3RD-6TH**

NL

Living the Word: Teaching Kids God's Story
Narrative Lectionary, Year 3 (2024-2025)

Lesson #3-36
Galatians 1:13-17; 2:11-21

LAST WEEK

A major disagreement arises in the early church, so the apostles gather together to discuss it and come to an agreement. This is the first church council (Acts 15:1-18).

THIS WEEK

In a letter, Paul writes about how he became a follower of Jesus. He proclaims that a relationship with God comes from trusting Jesus, not what we do (Galatians 1:13-17; 2:11-21).

BIBLE NUTS & BOLTS

Letters

The Letter to the Galatians is one of the many letters that make up the New Testament. The letters are often written to particular congregations (like the church in Galatia), though some are written to a broader audience (like the letter of 1 John). When reading these letters, it is important to understand what specific situations they are written for.

PRACTICE: FELLOWSHIP

Sometimes a life of faith can feel like an obstacle course. However, Jesus came to remove obstacles that keep us from knowing God and knowing each other. Talk as a family about what makes it hard for you to know God and each other, and consider what you might do to remove these obstacles.

THE POINT

God loves us no matter what.

STORY SUMMARY

Saved by Faith

In this passage, Paul reminds the Galatians of how he started following Jesus. Originally, he persecuted the early Christians. Then, Jesus revealed himself to Paul (then using his Hebrew name Saul), and Paul's purpose became sharing this good news with the Gentiles. Later, Paul became angry with Peter. Peter had been eating with the Gentiles, not separately as was Jewish custom. But when other Jewish Christians came, he stopped. Paul declared that a relationship with God is not affected by what we do, but through trusting Jesus. It does not matter if one does not follow Jewish laws. What matters is God's love for us—something we can trust with our whole beings.

NEXT WEEK

Paul continues writing to the Galatians that they become right with God based on faith, not what they do. He declares that everyone is united in Jesus Christ with no divisions (Galatians 3:1-9 23-29).

Family Discussions

Use the questions below or other questions you think of to discuss today's Scripture reading (listed above) with your family.

- ✚ Where do you see the message that "It is GOOD" in this Scripture?
- ✚ What does this Scripture have to do with our lives today?
- ✚ What part of this Scripture is the most interesting to you? Why?

Family Devotions

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. What is God's message to us? How should we respond?

Sunday—Read Galatians 1:13-17; 2:11-21

Paul and Peter approach Gentiles differently, and Paul reminds all that we are justified not by what we do but by faith and God's grace. Talk about a part of your life that feels overwhelming, and brainstorm ways you can support each other.

Monday—Read Galatians 1:1-12

Paul is writing to the Galatians because he is worried they are not following the teachings of Christ. Plant seeds together, and commit to nurturing them just as you nurture your faith.

Tuesday—Read Galatians 1:18-24

Paul describes his travels, and how his conversion led others to glorify God. Think about people in your life who help you see God, and be certain they know how they have helped you!

Wednesday—Read Acts 11:1-18

Peter reports about his vision of animals formerly called unclean, and how God declared them clean. The Gentiles, then, must not be considered unclean. Draw a picture of a dream that you have had. Describe how the dream made you feel.

Thursday—Read Romans 3:21-31

Through Jesus Christ, we know that righteousness and faith are for all. Pray for people in the world who struggle with faith.

Friday—Read 2 Peter 3:14-16

The conclusion of this letter reminds followers to be at peace and to be wary of people who misinterpret the Scriptures. Practice sitting together in peace for a few moments. Try not to talk or move but to focus on taking deep breaths together.

Saturday—Read Acts 28:23-28

Paul tells people in Rome about Jesus and is frustrated by people's unwillingness to accept this good news. Hold each other accountable in doing an extra act of kindness this week, so that others may understand God's love through you!