7. A Tale of Two Sons
Galatians 4:8-31

Introduction

1. 'Do you wish to be enslaved all over again?' (v8-11)

2. 'Have I now become your enemy by telling you the truth?' (v12-20)

3. 'Are you not aware of what the law says?' (v21-31)

Growth Group questions

Look back at chapter 3 - what arguments has Paul used so far to show the Galatians why going back to law is so foolish?

READ Galatians 4:8-31

1. What is Paul saying in v8-9? How should we understand 'other gods' according to Paul? How does that help you understand other religions?

2. What is the shock of v9-10? How might we be in danger of adding a calendar of special days and seasons to our faith in Christ alone?

3. Look at Paul's language in v12-20. We may not be able to tell Paul's tone (v20), but what do you learn about how he feels now, and then?

4. How does Paul understand his relationship with them? Why does he rehearse how he came to preach the gospel to them?

5. Why does Paul tell the church to beware of the Jewish Christian leaders? Why is it really important that we don't put ourselves under the influence of people who want to bring out themselves in others? What do we learn from Paul are the characteristics of good Christian leadership?

6. How does the story of Hagar and Sarah help to explain the difference between the Old Covenant and the New Covenant?

7. What pairs does Paul write about from the Old Testament? How do they help us to understand that law and grace are two different religions?

8. In what ways are the children or promise still persecuted today?

9. What two destinies does Paul set before us? On what basis?

10. How can lawkeeping rob us of our joy? Where are we in danger of this in our own lives and spiritual 'disciplines'? as well as in our church life?

11. Is it true to say 'there are no rules in the Christian life?' How might this be true? How might it not be?