



FAITH 5 WITH FLAT JESUS!

The week of Sunday, May 28, 2017

SHARE – Share at least One High and One Low from the day or the week.

READ – Galatians 3: 1-9

1 You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly exhibited as crucified! 2 The only thing I want to learn from you is this: Did you receive the Spirit by doing the works of the law or by believing what you heard? 3 Are you so foolish? Having started with the Spirit, are you now ending with the flesh? 4 Did you experience so much for nothing?—if it really was

for nothing. 5 Well then, does God supply you with the Spirit and work miracles among you by your doing the works of the law, or by your believing what you heard? 6 Just as Abraham "believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness," 7 so, you see, those who believe are the descendants of Abraham. 8 And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, declared the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, "All the Gentiles shall be blessed in you." 9 For this reason, those who believe are blessed with Abraham who believed.

TALK –

A little background info: The apostle Paul was writing to the Gentile-Christians in the churches across the region of Galatia, in modern Turkey, who were confused by the teaching by Jewish-Christians about whether they were saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, or, if they had to become Jewish first. Paul reminds them that they were saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, baptized into the new life in Christ, and experienced the Holy Spirit in powerful and miraculous ways, apart from following being Jewish and following the practices of the Law in the Hebrew Bible (the Old Testament).

Some questions to consider as appropriate (some basic, some complex):

What does it feel like to be excluded? What does it feel like to be included?

Have you ever played a game and someone changed the rules part way through? How did that make you feel? What was your reaction to the people who made the new rules?

Have you ever tried or wanted to change the rules to a game? Why did you want to change the rules?

When going on a trip, do you like to know the exact directions, or do you like to discover your own way there? What are the pros and cons of each method?

Both the Jewish-Christians and Paul were appealing to the traditions they knew and practiced from the Scriptures of the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament). What part of the Jewish tradition did Paul raise up for the Galatians? How does Paul connect the Gentile-Christians with Abraham, the father/founder of the Jewish faith?

How have I experienced God's presence/the Holy Spirit in my life recently?

What do these words mean to you: Grace, Faith, Believe, Justify, Righteousness?

How does this Scripture relate to, or connect to your life and faith, your Highs and Lows?

Where did you see and experience God this week?

PRAY – You can hold hands or fold your hands when you pray together...

- Thank God for the Highs you shared with each other.
- Ask God for whatever kind of help and support you need for the Lows you shared with each other.

If you want, you can pray the Lord's Prayer together.

BLESS – Mark each other with the sign of the Cross on the forehead and say this, or some other blessing you may think of:

Remember that Jesus loves you and the Holy Spirit is within you!

Don't forget to take a picture with Flat Jesus and post it to Facebook with #flatjesuscv, or email your picture to pastor.steve@christusvictor.org or pastor.kent@christusvictor.org for them to share with the CV community!

Thanks for participating in the summer FAITH 5 Flat Jesus!

Remember Christ goes with you wherever you go, and not just on Sundays. Take Jesus to the park, the game, work, the BBQ, on your bike ride or hike.