

The Purpose of the Law

Galatians 3:15-29

Virtually the whole of the scriptures and the understanding of the whole of theology—the entire Christian life, even—depends upon the true understanding of the law and the gospel.

-Martin Luther

I. The Limits of the Law

II. The Freedom of Faith

Take it deeper:

1) Paul says that the law is like a tutor for us. There is a very positive aspect to that. The law shows us how far short we fall. It shows us how far off the path we have gone. How does the law accomplish that? Can you think through the Ten Commandments, and how they could be used to show us our sins? Why do we need the law to show us the reality of our sin?

2) Paul also says that the time for being under a tutor has passed. What would it look like to go back to the tutelage of the law? What are some ways that we practically move back toward slavery to legalism or self-made righteousness?

3) Paul gives us the picture of being baptized into Christ and clothed with Christ. How does that picture encourage you? Why is the idea of being clothed with Christ such a precious promise for a Christian? What can you thank God for specifically in being clothed by Christ?

4) Paul makes the case that being found in Christ leads to unity in the body of Christ. There is no longer distinction between different social circles, different genders, or different nationalities. How can the church practically display that unity? What are some things that we are prone to the are destructive to our unity? Why is unity so crucial to our care for one another, and our witness to the world around us?

For Families:

5) Talk to your children about what will make them right before God. Talk about the difference between obedience out of love and obedience for the sake of being good enough.