

# *Sons or Slaves?*

## Galatians 4:1-11

Everyone in the world is either the slave of sin and Satan or the slave of Jesus Christ.

-Martyn Lloyd-Jones

### I. Freedom as Sons

## II. Bondage as Slaves

### Take it deeper:

1) Our worldview is the lens through which we view not only the world around us, but the events that make up our lives. What are some things that have shaped your worldview? In what ways are these things beneficial? In what ways can they be dangerous? Why is having a worldview shaped by biblical truth so critical for us as believers?

2) Paul uses an illustration of moving from childhood to adulthood in the opening verses of Chapter 4. The point is that the Galatian believers had experienced a new found freedom as heirs in Jesus Christ. What are some of the wonderful privileges that come as a result of being a child of God? Take time as a group to specifically think through these things and thank God for them.

3) Paul talks about an intimacy with God in this chapter. It's not just a relationship between creator and creature, but between a father and a child. Do you ever struggle to see God as your father? What are some reasons that it might be difficult to view God this way? Why is it a precious truth that we can not only know God as our savior and king, but as our father? What confidence does that give us as we face the various struggles of our lives?

4) Paul pleads with the Galatians not to turn from freedom back toward slavery. He warns them that they will be returning to a mindset that they were supposed to have abandoned long ago. What might it look like for us to return to thinking or acting like slaves to sin? Think of it not only in terms of specific sinful actions, but in what we allow to mold and shape our worldview. For example, it is a return to slavery to allow our thoughts to be shaped by \_\_\_\_\_ rather than by God's word. Are there things that you have allowed to shape your worldview that you need to put aside?

### **For Families:**

5) Talk with your kids about what shapes their view of the world. Help them understand that God has given us his word which gives us wisdom for any and every circumstance. Have a conversation about how the culture that we live in will try to shape them and mold their thinking, and how Christians will live and think differently than the world around them.