



MESSAGE

STUDY GUIDE

GROUP MATERIAL

SONGS

Community Group Material:

Bible Reading: Galatians 2:19-21

Ask one person to pray at the beginning of your meeting.

Check-in

Check in with each other about how everyone is doing.

Bible Reading: Galatians 2:19–21

Sermon Summary:

Galatians 2:19-21 are some of the most important verses in the New Testament. Paul describes his identity and his living in Christ. Paul's relationship with the law (Torah) was ended because he was crucified with Christ. Even though he felt that he was able to keep the law, he realized that his acceptance by God was not based on keeping the law but on faith in Christ. He no longer lived a ego-centric life, but now Christ lived in him. This did not mean he was replaced or annihilated. But now the source of his life and living was guided by the faithfulness of the Son of God who loved him and gave himself for Paul. Paul considered his identity in Christ and his living in this new identity and relationship was what should be everyone's experience. He did not consider himself special, he considered himself simply to be an example.

Discussion:

1. What does it mean that Christ represents us and why is this important?

2. How do we participate with Christ? Give some examples that can illustrate this point.
3. Paul doesn't mention in Galatians his inability to keep the law. Why did he not mention this? How could this influence how we communicate the gospel with people?
4. N. T. Wright says: "To have 'Christ living within' one is a matter of actual, personal, inner transformation." Discuss how this works out in your life.
5. We have many identities. How can we know that our primary identity is being in Christ?
6. Read different translations of Gal. 2:20. Here are some translations:
 - a. "I live by faith in the Son of God" (CSB, ESV,)
 - b. "I live by the faith of the Son of God" (KJV)
 - c. "I live because of the faithfulness of the Son of God" (NET, ISV)
 - d. If we understand that all of these have merit, explain how they all influence our living.
7. Paul did not live an individual Christian life. Describe how Christ living in us is not just for us personally but also for how we relate to other people, both Christians and not yet Christians.

End with Prayer.

- Pray that our hearts would accept all people without distinction at CIT.
- Pray for one another.