
Study 2

Galatians 1:11-2:10 | A life-changing gospel

Get Talking

1. Have you ever had an experience or encounter that changed the way you saw things (e.g. becoming a parent, major health scare)? Share your stories.
2. Skim back over 1:1-10. What is the big issue that Paul wants to address in this letter?

READ Galatians 1:11-2:10

3. How does Paul defend the gospel he has been preaching?
4. What are the implications if Paul did indeed receive his gospel by revelation from Jesus Christ (v11)?
5. Why does Paul spend so much time talking about his own story (you can also read an account in Acts 9:1-19)? What does he say about his past life?
6. Paul gives a lot of detail about his movements following the encounter with Jesus. Try to map this out. Why does he go into all this detail?

7. It seems as if the false teachers were accusing Paul of not being a real apostle and that his teaching wasn't in line with that of the original apostles. How does Paul counter this?
8. How does Paul show that even though he wasn't reliant on the original apostles for his message, his gospel wasn't different to theirs? Why is this important?
9. When Paul goes to Jerusalem for the second time, he takes Titus (and Barnabas) with him (see 2:1-5). How does Titus become an important figure in this controversy?
10. How would giving in to the demand for Titus to be circumcised "make us slaves" and jeopardise the "truth of the gospel" (2:3-5)?
11. For Paul, anything that is added to the "truth of the gospel" actually subtracts from it. If the false teachers wanted to *compel* people to be circumcised, Paul was *compelled* to object. Can you think of extra things that people want to add to the gospel today? How should we respond?
12. What is the key to a life-changing encounter God? Has that happened to you? What changes has he brought about in your life?