

Study 1

Galatians 1:1-10 | Like Nothing Else

Get Talking

1. “Apostle Jeremiah” is advertising his ministry on billboards throughout the city. What is an apostle? Do you think Jeremiah is likely to be one?
2. His sales pitch is that he comes to bring “a powerful new gospel for a new age”. What do you think about that?

Investigate – Who, what, where?

This letter is written to the churches Paul established in the Province of Galatia on his 1st and 2nd missionary journeys e.g. Iconium, Lystra & Derbe (See Acts 13-14).

3. Read Acts 13:15, 32-34, 38-39. How would you summarise the message that Paul preached in Galatia?
4. What happened in response to this preaching – Acts 13:44-50?
5. Read a few selected verses from Acts 15 to see what happened next.
 - a. V1 – What was the backlash?
 - b. V2 – What was Paul’s response?
 - c. V5 – At the meeting, what do Paul’s opposers say?

d. V9-11 – What does Peter say?

e. V24-29 – What is the conclusion?

Investigate – The Galatian crisis

6. Read Galatians 1:7b; 2:4-5; 3:1-3; 6:12-13. What seems to be happening in the Galatian churches that has Paul so concerned for them?
7. How does he introduce himself in this letter (1:1-2) and why do you think he might have chosen to do it this way?
8. What else does he say in his greeting (v3-5)? Spend time unpacking each of the phrases he uses. Why has he chosen these words?
9. The tone of the letter quickly gets serious (v6 onwards). How does Paul speak about the recent changes in the Galatian churches?
10. How flexible is the Christian gospel? What does Paul say (see v8-9)?
11. People-pleasing can be dangerous. How does Paul think about this (v10)?
12. What are some of the ways in which we might be tempted to water down the gospel or to move away from what is at the heart of our faith?