

# THE SWEETNESS OF **FREEDOM**

G A L A T I A N S

Sunday, May 20, 2018 | Wawasee Community Bible Church | Milford, Indiana | Pastor Josh Weiland

## **PART 7: TO BE KNOWN BY GOD**

Galatians 4:8-20

### **Before Knowing God** *(8)*

Before knowing God through Jesus Christ, we were all  
**ENSLAVED** and without hope. *(v. 8)*

*Ephesians 2:11-12*

*1 Thessalonians 1:9*

### **The Essence of True Salvation is Being Known by God** *(9)*

To be known by God means you have a personal  
**RELATIONSHIP** and are deeply loved! *(v. 9)*

## A Few Implications of Being Known by God (10-20)

### 1. You are **FREE!** (v. 9-11, 15-20)

*Flee from everything that enslaves and maintain your freedom in Jesus Christ.*

*Find your identity in Christ alone, not in idols of sin or religion.*

**IDOLS** = any thing (good or bad) made to be “God” in our lives.

- Items
- Duties
- Others
- Longings
- Sufferings

### 2. We must have **NO SACRED COWS!** (v. 12)

*“I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. **I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.**”*

1 Corinthians 9:22–23 (ESV)

**Core Value #5: No Sacred Cows.** *Jesus is sacred. God’s Word is sacred. But our opinions and traditions and preferences are not. Therefore we hold everything other than God and his Word in an open hand (with a loose grip), and are willing to let it go for the sake of the Gospel. We are committed to having no “sacred cows”.*

### 3. Our **SUFFERING** has purpose. (v. 13-14)

2 Corinthians 1:3-7

Romans 8:24-30

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***It’s All About Jesus!***

# 1:10 COMMUNITY GROUP **HOMEWORK**

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## **GETTING STARTED**

1. Have you ever received an inheritance? What are some things that have been passed down to you from someone else?
2. **Read Galatians 4:8-20** and review your message note. What stood out to you from the message this week? Do you have questions? Disagreements? Discuss it with your group.

## **DISCUSS**

3. **Read 1 Corinthians 9:20–23; Galatians 2:19; 5:1; Ephesians 2:6–10.** When Paul urged the Galatians to “become as I am,” did he mean they were to: (a) become missionaries; (b) become free from the pressure to conform to the law; (c) become circumcised? How do you know?
4. Look again at **1 Corinthians 9:20-23**. What was Paul willing to change in his life and ministry? Why?
5. Pastor Josh talks often about having a “**two handed theology**”. Some things we hold in a closed fist, but most we hold in an open hand (with a loose grip). What are the dangers of putting the wrong things in the closed fist? (Talk about dangers for you personally and for our church.) How do you know what goes in the closed fist? What are some things you might tend to hold with a closed fist that really belong in an open hand? (Another way of asking this might be: What are some of your “sacred cows”?)
6. Paul tells us in **Galatians 4:13-14** that the reason he ended up in Galatia was due to an illness or ailment of some sort. Have you ever faced suffering or afflictions that God has ended up using for good in your own life or in the lives of others?
7. The poster boy for suffering in the Bible (apart from Jesus) is undoubtedly Job. Take some time to **read Job 23:1-14**. Reflect on the passage and take some notes. What was Job’s attitude originally like in his suffering? What was his view of God in the midst of his suffering? Does his attitude change as the chapter goes on? **Look at v. 10**. What is a purpose of suffering? **Look at v. 14**. Is God oblivious to our suffering? Does he cause our suffering or allow it? Or both? — *For more on God’s purpose in suffering look at **2 Corinthians 1:3-7 and Romans 8:24-30**.*
8. Is your attitude in suffering more like Job in 23:1 or 23:10?

# FREE/DOM

*During your prayer time this week, let's all be praying together about the following items.  
Use the space at the bottom to record your personal prayer items, or requests from your 1:10 Group.*

## Neighboring Church

Pray this week for the ministry and people of Nappanee Missionary Church. Thank the Lord for their ministry and pray for his continued guidance and blessing.

## Personal Prayer Items

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## Word Find for Galatians 4:8-12 (ESV)

Find the words **bolded** below.

<sup>8</sup> **Formerly**, when you did not **know** God, you were **enslaved** to those that by **nature** are not gods. <sup>9</sup> But now that you have **come** to **know** God, or

**rather** to be **known** by God, how can you **turn back again** to the **weak** and **worthless**

**elementary principles** of the **world**, whose **slaves** you **want** to be

**once more**? <sup>10</sup> You **observe days** and **months** and **seasons** and **years**! <sup>11</sup> I am **afraid** I may have **labored** over you in **vain**.

<sup>12</sup> **Brothers**, I **entreat** you, **become** as I am, for I **also** have **become** as you are. You did me no **wrong**.

C	O	M	E	W	A	N	T	M	V	B	E	W
V	W	R	O	N	G	R	A	T	H	E	R	W
W	O	H	O	B	S	E	R	V	E	C	S	O
H	R	F	O	R	M	E	R	L	Y	O	A	R
E	L	A	B	O	R	E	D	A	C	M	E	T
N	D	N	A	T	U	R	E	F	M	E	L	H
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N	K	K	N	O	W	N	U	W	D	A	Y	S