



GALATIANS 3 AND 4 THE LAW VS. THE PROMISE

Scripture: Galatians 3:15-18, 23-25, Genesis 15:1-6, Exodus 19:3-8

Open: Greet, Praises, Requests, Pray

Supplies: Hula hoops, start, and finish line

Ask:

Who remembers what we talked about last week? (Not being able to fulfill the law)

Remember that Paul is trying to keep the Galatians from being led astray by the Judaizers. The Judaizers are people that think they need to still uphold the old law in order to be saved. Paul wants the Galatians to realize that we cannot be saved by our works, but only by faith in the finished work of Jesus on the cross.

Today we're going to talk more about the Law. But this time, we're going to go back. We're going to talk about covenants and the beginning of the law.

Background:

The law was given to Moses on Mount Sinai. However, before the law was given, a promise was first given to Abraham. Both of these men are vital to the Jewish faith and to the Christian faith. Make sure that kids have a full understanding of both men.

Read: Genesis 15:1-6

Abraham:

If you haven't heard of Abraham, his name was originally Abram. He was called away by God from Ur of the Chaldeans and he moved, trusting that God would bring him to the land He promised him. This is what we call the Promised Land, and it is Israel. But what else was he promised in this section we just read? (An heir. This is what we're going to talk about today)

Moses:

But first, we have to learn about another important man in the Bible. His name is Moses. Does anyone know anything about Moses? (He was saved by his mother in a basket, he was God's instrument in the Exodus and the plagues upon Egypt, he received the 10 commandments). Moses played a large part in the story of the Israelites, but one of the most important parts is what he had in receiving the law. We're going to look at that today,

Read: Exodus 19:3-8

Explain:

Abraham came first. He received the promise before Moses received the law. This is an important point that Paul wants to make to the Galatians.

Read: Galatians 3:15-18, 23-25

Play a Game:

Play a game of Prison Break to remind kids we are no longer bound by the law. Divide the kids into two equal teams and create a starting line and a finish line. Lay hula hoops on the ground between the start and finish. These hula hoops are safe spaces. The goal of the game is for the team in Prison to break free (get from the start to the finish, the finish line being faith). The other team is trying to tag them. If a Prisoner is tagged, they must go back to the starting line and start over. The Prisoners cannot be tagged if they are in a safe space. As many kids can be in a hula hoop safe space as needed.

After 5 minutes, see how many prisoners made it to the finish line. Then, allow the other team to be the prisoners.

Explain:

Paul didn't want the Galatians to live like they were still imprisoned by the law, but the Judaizers were trying to keep them bound by the law. Last week, Paul reminded the people that if they were still bound by the law, then Jesus died for nothing. This week, he wants to remind the people that the promise came before the law, so it trumps the law.

Main Point:

Jesus is the heir to the promise. But he made a way for us to become co-heirs with him. His death and resurrection made a way for us to be free from the law. When we put our faith in him and are born again, we become co-heirs with Christ, people that inherit the promise or heaven.

Memorize: Galatians 3:23**Close in Prayer**