the TAKE HOME 08.06.17

Today's Scripture Passage: Galatians 3:15-29

¹⁵Brothers, let me take an example from everyday life. Just as no one can set aside or add to a human covenant that has been duly established, so it is in this case. ¹⁶The promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. The Scripture does not say "and to seeds," meaning many people, but "and to your seed,"^{F13} meaning one person, who is Christ. ¹⁷What I mean is this: The law, introduced 430 years later, does not set aside the covenant previously established by God and thus do away with the promise. ¹⁸For if the inheritance depends on the law, then it no longer depends on a promise; but God in his grace gave it to Abraham through a promise.

¹⁹What, then, was the purpose of the law? It was added because of transgressions until the Seed to whom the promise referred had come. The law was put into effect through angels by a mediator. ²⁰A mediator, however, does not represent just one party; but God is one.

²¹Is the law, therefore, opposed to the promises of God? Absolutely not! For if a law had been given that could impart life, then righteousness would certainly have come by the law. ²²But the Scripture declares that the whole world is a prisoner of sin, so that what was promised, being given through faith in Jesus Christ, might be given to those who believe.

²³Before this faith came, we were held prisoners by the law, locked up until faith should be revealed. ²⁴So the law was put in charge to lead us to Christ^{F14} that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵Now that faith has come, we are no longer under the supervision of the law. ²⁶You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, ²⁷for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

²⁸There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Questions:

- 1. What are the promises referred to in Gal. 3:16?
- 2. To whom were the promises made?
- 3. What is the law referred to in Gal. 3:17?
- 4. What is the purpose of the law in light of the promises?
- 5. What is the relationship between the promises, the law, and faith?
- 6. What are the implications of the message in this passage for our lives?

Prayer:

- 1. Pray for the transitional details for Pastor Joe and his family.
- 2. Pray for Phil Rolfe, our new elder chairman and the board of elders
- 3. Pray for our nation and our leaders.
- 4. Pray for our neighbors, their salvation and wellbeing.