

the TAKE HOME 09.03.17

Today's Scripture Passage: Galatians 5:2-15

²Mark my words! I, Paul, tell you that if you let yourselves be circumcised, Christ will be of no value to you at all. ³Again I declare to every man who lets himself be circumcised that he is obligated to obey the whole law. ⁴You who are trying to be justified by law have been alienated from Christ; you have fallen away from grace. ⁵But by faith we eagerly await through the Spirit the righteousness for which we hope. ⁶For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love. ⁷You were running a good race. Who cut in on you and kept you from obeying the truth? ⁸That kind of persuasion does not come from the one who calls you. ⁹"A little yeast works through the whole batch of dough." ¹⁰I am confident in the Lord that you will take no other view. The one who is throwing you into confusion will pay the penalty, whoever he may be. ¹¹Brothers, if I am still preaching circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? In that case the offense of the cross has been abolished. ¹²As for those agitators, I wish they would go the whole way and emasculate themselves! ¹³You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love. ¹⁴The entire law is summed up in a single command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁵If you keep on biting and devouring each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.

Questions:

1. Paul begins and ends this section with a warning. In the middle of it he wishes these agitators would emasculate themselves. Compare Paul's anger with Jesus' anger in the Temple. (John 21:12,13) What do we learn from this comparison?
2. How could Christ be of no value? (vs. 2) What are some ways that we devalue Christ?
3. What does Paul mean here when he says "you have fallen away from grace?"
4. How is the entire law summed up in love your neighbor as yourself? If we're free from the law why would this concern us?

Prayer:

1. Pray for Pastor Joe, Debra and their family as they make their way here next week.
2. Pray for those who have been impacted by Hurricane Harvey.
3. Pray for our leaders. (national, state, local and church)
4. Praise for a wonderful time of fellowship last Sunday between Igreja Videira and Crossroads.
5. Praise for the witness of baptisms and pray for those new in the faith.