

Discussion Questions for 2/16/25 Message

Message #13: Gal. 4:21 – 5:1 – Listen to what the Law Really Says to You!

The Apostle Paul uses the true story of Hagar, Sarah, Ishmael and Isaac as an allegory, because it illustrates, in a memorable way, right from the first book of the Law, that there are differences between a life under Law and a life under Grace, and how we should respond when challenged to put ourselves under Law.

Read Galatians 4:21– 5:1. Also Genesis 21:1-21

1. In V.21 Paul starts with a rhetorical question. To whom, specifically, is Paul's question addressed?
2. In Galatians 4:22-31, Paul's allegory highlights the differences between Ishmael and Isaac. What was the difference in the status of the two sons?
3. How were the Galatians like Isaac, the child of Promise? (Gal. 4:28)
4. How were the Judaizers like Ishmael, the child of slavery? (4:29)
5. How does Paul compare Ishmael's persecution of Isaac to the legalistic Judaizers' opposition to Christians? (4:29-30)
6. In the account in Genesis 21, Who is doing the mocking, and to whom? (Genesis 21:8-10)
7. For what reason(s) would people who are "under Law" want to persecute those who are "under grace"?

8. Who told Abraham to get rid of the slave woman and her son?
(Gal. 4:30; Gen. 21:10)
9. How did Abraham feel about that, and How did God console him? (Gen. 21:11-13)
10. How did God respond to Abraham's concerns? (Gen. 21:11-13)
11. To which side does Paul align himself, to Ishmael and Hagar, or Isaac and Sarah?
(4:31) How does he use this to encourage the Galatians?
12. In Gal. 5:1, what exhortation does Paul give the Galatians, and on what does he
base his exhortation?
13. In practical terms, how would the Galatians need to respond to Paul's
Exhortation?
14. How would his exhortation be a caution and a directive to us today?
15. What encourages you the most, knowing that you are not under Law, but Under
Grace?