



SDG Discussion Guide

Galatians 3:26 - 4:5

December 9, 2018

For starters:

When you were dating, were you ever “dumped” or “dropped” for someone else? What did that do to your emotions?

How affectionate was, or is, your relationship with your parents?

What do you remember about how you felt in the beginning phase of your Christian life?

Guideline: The following questions are meant to provide points of further interaction with the respective sermon text and surrounding passage. Feel free to forward the questions to your small group members ahead of the respective Sunday. Group members may also find these questions in print on that Sunday.

As you can, read aloud the passage in your group; read it aloud a second time but from a different Bible translation (eg, read from the Message after first reading from the ESV). Before you begin your discussion, pray and ask God to speak to your group. Notice, what may God be highlighting for your discussion and learning?

Now that you have read the text together, what points and questions arose? Spend plenty of time in your group to address *these*. Explore and see how God may steer the discussion. The following are further questions for interaction.

1. Have you been baptized? If so what do you remember about your baptism? What do you recall of its meaning?
2. How would you explain to a non-Christian what it takes to become a child of God?
3. What do you imagine when you hear the words, “clothe yourself with Christ?” Elaborate on what that means to you now.
4. What effect does being “in Christ” have on relationships among believers (3:28)?
5. How has God intervened to alter human history and adopt us as full heirs (4:4-5)?
6. What are some social and cultural barriers to the unity of Christians in our time? How can you help to bring down these barriers in your own life? In the life of your small group?
7. Like the Galatians, have you slipped back into any bad habits or old ways, from which Christ once delivered you? Which ones? What can you do about it?
8. This past week, did you feel more like a slave to rules... or a free, loved and forgiven Christian? Elaborate on how you understand that we live out our freedom in Christ, while still honoring God with our sacrificial obedience?

Spend some time in prayer. Thank God, and ask him to continue to speak to you from his word in this passage. Ask him to awaken you evermore to his presence in your life. Ask him to bring you to a renewed awareness of your identity before him - to show you how *he* sees you. Go forth with the *assurance* that you are no longer a slave to fear... but a child of the living God.

*These questions were adapted from *The Serendipity Bible for Groups* (Zondervan, 1998).