



Café VEF Worship Service

(January 24th, 2021)

*Address: #2 Jiagong 1st Road, Hsinchu.

*Website: www.vefellowship.com



Call to Worship	Psalm 113:1-9
Worship in Song	In Christ Alone
Scripture Reading	1 Peter 2:1-6
Worship in Song	The Stand Goodness of God No Other Name But the Name of Jesus
Announcements	Jims
Message <i>"The Pure Gospel"</i>	John Olson Galatians 1:1-12
Communion	
Benediction	John Olson

Questions for Group Discussion

1. What is something that you are thankful for this past week?
2. Do you have any questions about the message today?
3. What did God teach you?
4. Do you have any prayer requests?

Summary of the Book of Galatians

<https://www.gotquestions.org/Book-of-Galatians.html>

Author: [Galatians 1:1](#) clearly identifies the apostle Paul as the writer of the epistle to the Galatians.

Date of Writing: Galatians is likely the first New Testament book to be written, composed sometime soon after AD 49.

Purpose of Writing: The churches in Galatia were comprised of both Jewish and Gentile converts. Paul's purpose in writing to these churches was to confirm them in the faith, especially concerning justification by faith alone, apart from the works of the [Law of Moses](#).

Galatians was written because the churches of that region were facing a theological crisis. The essential truth of justification by faith rather than by human works was being denied by the [Judaizers](#)—legalistic Jews who insisted that Christians must keep the Mosaic Law. In particular, the Judaizers insisted on [circumcision](#) as a requirement for Gentiles who wished to be saved. In other words, convert to Judaism *first*, and then you are eligible to become a Christian. When Paul learned that this heresy was being taught to the Galatian churches, he composed an epistle to emphasize our liberty in Christ and to counter the perversion of the gospel that the Judaizers promoted.

Key Verses:

[Galatians 2:16](#): "Know that a man is not justified by observing the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by observing the law, because by observing the law no one will be justified."

[Galatians 2:20](#): "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."

[Galatians 3:11](#): "Clearly no one is justified before God by the law, because, 'The righteous will live by faith.'"

[Galatians 4:5-6](#): "to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons. Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, 'Abba, Father.'"

[Galatians 5:22-23](#): “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.”

[Galatians 6:7](#): “Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows.”

Brief Summary: The fact that we are justified by grace through faith means we have spiritual freedom. We are not under bondage to the dictates of the Old Testament Law. Paul soundly condemns anyone who would denigrate the grace of God and attempt to change the gospel ([Galatians 1:8–10](#)). He gives his apostolic credentials ([Galatians 1:11–2:14](#)) and emphasizes that righteousness comes through Christ not the works of the Law ([Galatians 2:21](#)). The Galatians must stand fast in their freedom and not be “entangled again with a yoke of bondage (that is, the Mosaic law)” ([Galatians 5:1](#)). Christian freedom is not an excuse to gratify one’s sin nature; rather, our freedom is an opportunity to love one another ([Galatians 5:13](#); [6:7–10](#)). The Christian life is to be lived in the power of the Spirit, not the flesh ([Galatians 5:16–18](#)). The flesh has been crucified with Christ ([Galatians 2:20](#)); as a consequence, the Spirit will bear His fruit in the life of the believer ([Galatians 5:22–23](#)).

In the end, the issue is not whether a person is circumcised but whether he is a “new creation” ([Galatians 6:15](#)). Salvation is the work of the Spirit, and we must be born again (see [John 3:3](#)). External religious rites such as circumcision are of no value in the realm of the Spirit.

Practical Application: One of the main themes of the book of Galatians is found in 3:11: “The righteous shall live by faith.” We must stand firm in this truth. Any compromise with legalism or the mixture of human effort and the grace of God for salvation leads to heresy. If we could be saved through the keeping of the Law, then Jesus did not need to die ([Galatians 2:21](#)). Trying to save ourselves nullifies grace.

Not only are we saved by faith ([John 3:16](#); [Ephesians 2:8–9](#)), but the life of the believer in Christ—day by day, moment by moment—is lived by and through that faith ([Galatians 2:20](#)). Not that faith is something we conjure up on our own—it is the gift of God, not of works (see [Ephesians 2:8–9](#))—but it is our responsibility and joy to exhibit our faith so that others will see the work of Christ in us and to grow in our faith by the application of spiritual disciplines (Bible study, prayer, obedience, etc.).

Jesus said we would be known by the fruit of our lives ([Matthew 7:16](#)), which should give evidence of the faith within us. All Christians should be diligent in striving to build upon the saving faith within us so that our lives will reflect Christ and others will “glorify your Father who is in heaven” ([Matthew 5:16, NKJV](#)).

Announcements

There will be a special installation service for Pastor Tom during Café VEF (1:30PM) next Sunday (1/31) with a reception to follow (approximately 3PM).

There will be no Children’s Sunday School on February 7th & 14th. There will be no Café VEF on February 14th – only the morning worship service at 9:00.

Last Sunday’s (1/17)

- Morning worship attendance – 107
- Afternoon worship attendance – 60
- Children’s Sunday school attendance – 32

How to pay tithes by Wire Transfer You can transfer your offerings to Victory’s Postal account, the bank code is 700, follow by the account number - 0061021 0478485. Contact Pastor John at vefpastor@gmail.com or Yu-Hwa at yhwang217@yahoo.com.tw. Please make sure to contact one of them to make sure the money goes into the VEF account and transfer was properly made.

VEF Contact Information

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