

FROM REFORMATION TO REDEMPTION

Starting point:

If you have not heard the sermon, please take the time to go to our website www.vcfj.org and listen to it BEFORE you start this small group lesson. It will allow you to take notes along the way and be ready for the questions at hand. Remember, this is not an exercise but rather a group discussion to help you on our Journey to Greatness. May the Lord bless your faithfulness.

Overview

- Discuss the difference between man's promises and God's promises

The Promise FOUND IN THE ABRAHAMIC COVENANT

Gal. 3:15-18

- What were the Jewish people teaching the Galatians?
- What was the refresher course Paul gave them?
- Pastor shared the difference between the four unconditional covenants and the one conditional covenant. How does the unconditional covenant begin and the conditional covenant begin to make them different?
- What is the point Paul was making when he talked about the covenant God made with Abraham
- Read *Gen 12:1-3*. Who is God making promises to?
- Why is this an unconditional covenant? Discuss what each generation after Abraham was responsible to do.
- What is Paul teaching about God's faithfulness in *Romans 3:3-4*?
- What is Paul referring to in *Gal. 3:15*?
- What are the three things God promised in the Abrahamic covenant?

- Who can accomplish them?
- Who does Paul argue was the “seed” of Abraham?
- Was he the ultimate fulfilment of God’s promise?
- Why is this important for us?
- What makes us part of God’s family?
- Discuss what Paul is telling us in *Gal. 3:17-18*

The Promise FOUND IN THE SEED

Gal. 3:19-20

- Discuss what Paul says was the true purpose of the law?
- What does *Romans 3:19-20* tell us about the law?
- What role does the law play?
- Discuss the difference between “the law providing a way of salvation” verses “the law revealing our need for salvation.”
- The law and the gospel are not ways to salvation but means by which God points us to the one way of salvation. Discuss how this is backed up in *Gal. 3:22 and 2 Cor 1:20-22*.
- The law was added because of transgressions. What happened when “the Seed” (Jesus Christ) came?
- Because of Jesus and His truth, were should we turn our eyes?

Application

- How many of you promised yourself at the beginning of this Journey to Greatness that you will not miss out and want to end up in a better spiritual condition then when you started?
- Evaluate how the first half of this Journey has gone for you.
- How many of you promised yourself and your family that you will diligently follow through on working through the outline provided by Pastor so you can successfully apply the truths you have been taught?
- Evaluate how the first half of this Journey has gone in this area for you and your family.
- How would you use these verses with someone who thinks that keeping the Golden Rule or Ten Commandments is what’s needed to get right with God?