

REWired

From Performance to Passion

A SIX-WEEK GROUP
STUDY ON GALATIANS

"So you are no longer
a slave, but a son..."

Why would you want to be rewired?

I used to own an old refrigerator. When I pulled it out from the wall to get rid of it, I was shocked when I saw the cord—it was hot to the touch and frayed in several places.

Many men today are like that cord. They are working hard to hold their lives together and it's working—but just barely. Inside, they aren't experiencing a true sense of meaning, peace, or joy. If something doesn't change, they—like that refrigerator—are likely to flame out or just stop functioning altogether, with devastating consequences for those around them.

Here's the thing—even though the cord had changed on my old refrigerator, the current from the outlet had never wavered. The same thing is true for us.

There is a power source available to every man. The question is, will we tap into the Spirit and allow Him to provide the energy for our lives? That's what the book of Galatians is all about. We pray God uses this study to move you from a life of self-reliant performance to a life of passionate faith. You were created to live in freedom with a rewired heart; you won't be satisfied until you do.

With you on the journey,



Brett Clemmer

President, Man in the Mirror

NEVER DONE A GROUP STUDY BEFORE? No problem!

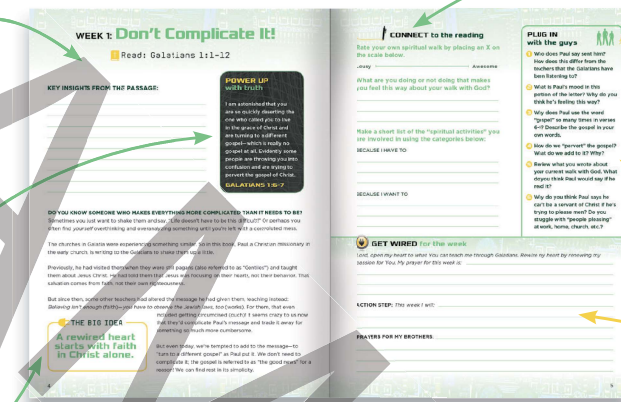
You only need three things:
this workbook, a Bible, and a pen.



HERE'S HOW IT WORKS FOR THE NEXT SIX WEEKS

On your own between meetings (30-45 minutes):

- 1. READ** the passage from Galatians for the week.
 - Write down one or two key insights from the passage.
 - You'll find a selected Bible verse(s) under **POWER UP** to memorize.
 - Read through the main content and **THE BIG IDEA**.
 - Jot down your answers under **CONNECT**—or you may do these as a group.
- Together as a team at meetings (60-90 minutes):**
- Re-read the passage from Galatians aloud.
 - Review the memory verse(s) for the week under **POWER UP**.
 - Discuss the main content together and read **THE BIG IDEA**.
 - Share your **CONNECT** answers, if desired.
 - As a group, go through the questions under **PLUG IN**.
 - Write down a prayer and action step for the week under **GET WIRED**.
 - Share your prayer requests and list the guys' requests under **GET WIRED**.



FOR THE GROUP FACILITATOR


This workbook is divided into six weeks of study to be completed by a small group of 4-8 men. At your first meeting, trade contact info and write it on the back of this workbook.

We recommend a 60 or 90-minute meeting. A good schedule for a 60-minute meeting is 10 minutes for catching up, 40 minutes for reading and discussion, and 10 minutes for prayer. For a 90-minute meeting, use the extra time for deeper discussion.

When leading discussion, aim to keep the conversation personal and practical, as opposed to purely theological or theoretical. **The goal is air time for every man, every week. Encourage each man to share, but don't force it.**

You don't need to be a teacher or an experienced Bible scholar to lead a group. The most important parts of your role are to show up, help facilitate discussion, and show guys you care. **PRO TIP:** Give every man on your team a quick call or text every week to remind him of your meeting and check in with him!

WEEK 1: Don't Complicate It!

 Read: Galatians 1:1-12

KEY INSIGHTS FROM THE PASSAGE:

POWER UP with truth

I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you to live in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ.

GALATIANS 1:6-7

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO MAKES EVERYTHING MORE COMPLICATED THAN IT NEEDS TO BE?

Sometimes you just want to shake them and say, “Life doesn’t have to be this difficult!” Or perhaps you often find *yourself* overthinking and overanalyzing something until you’re left with a convoluted mess.

The churches in Galatia were experiencing something similar. So in this book, Paul, a Christian missionary in the early church, is writing to the Galatians to shake them up a little.

Previously, he had visited them when they were still pagans (also referred to as “Gentiles”) and taught them about Jesus Christ. He had told them that Jesus was focusing on their hearts, not their behavior. That salvation comes from faith, not their own righteousness.


But since then, some other teachers had altered the message he had given them, teaching instead: *Believing isn’t enough* (faith)—*you have to observe the Jewish laws, too* (works). For them, that even included getting circumcised (ouch)! It seems crazy to us now that they’d complicate Paul’s message and trade it away for something so much more cumbersome.

 **THE BIG IDEA**
A rewired heart starts with faith in Christ alone.

But even today, we’re tempted to add to the message—to “turn to a different gospel” as Paul put it. We don’t need to complicate it; the gospel means “good news” for a reason! We can find rest in its simplicity.

CONNECT to the reading

Rate your own spiritual walk by placing an X on the scale below.

Lousy  Awesome

What are you doing or not doing that makes you feel this way about your walk with God?

Make a short list of the “spiritual activities” you are involved in using the categories below:

BECAUSE I HAVE TO

BECAUSE I WANT TO



GET WIRED for the week

Lord, open my heart to what You can teach me through Galatians. Rewire my heart by renewing my passion for You. My prayer for this week is:

NEXT STEP. This week I will:

PRAYERS FOR MY BROTHERS:

PLUG IN with the guys



- 1 Who does Paul say sent him? How does this differ from the teachers that the Galatians have been listening to?
- 2 What is Paul’s mood in this portion of the letter? Why do you think he’s feeling this way?
- 3 Why does Paul use the word “gospel” so many times in verses 6-9? Describe the gospel in your own words.
- 4 How do we “pervert” the gospel? What do we add to it? Why?
- 5 Review what you wrote about your current walk with God. What do you think Paul would say if he read it?
- 6 Why do you think Paul says he can’t be a servant of Christ if he’s trying to please men? Do you struggle with “people pleasing” at work, home, church, etc.?

WEEK 2: No Turning Back

Read: Galatians 2:11-21

KEY INSIGHTS FROM THE PASSAGE:

POWER UP
with truth

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

GALATIANS 2:20

CONFLICTS ARE NEVER EASY. One of the hardest calls to make in life is when to confront someone about something and when to let it go. Paul found himself needing to make this call.

In the early church, Paul’s ministry was primarily to the Gentiles, and Peter’s ministry was primarily to the Jews, but they preached the same gospel of Christ and welcomed both Jews and Gentiles into Christianity. However, in Galatians 2, Paul confronts Peter (also called Cephas) publicly because he believes nothing less than the integrity of the gospel is at stake.

What had Peter done to make Paul feel this way? When the Jewish Christians came to visit, Peter turned away from eating with Gentile Christians. In effect, he was denying Gentiles for not following Jewish customs. If Peter’s actions led others to believe that the rules they followed or the food they ate could make them righteous or unrighteous, then the very essence of the gospel would be compromised. The stakes were too high for Paul to do anything less than confront him publicly.

THE BIG IDEA

Once you have a rewired heart, it makes no sense to turn back to a life of self-reliance.

Paul reminds them that once God forgives us in Christ, it’s foolish to return to the Law of Moses—to try to earn righteousness by our actions. That would be like a man being completely cured from a leg infection but insisting that his leg be chopped off just in case! Do we believe we’ve been healed, or not?

If we say we have faith in Christ, but put our trust in good behavior to save us, we act as though “Christ died for no purpose,” as Paul says. Instead, trusting in Christ alone is what being rewired is all about.

CONNECT to the reading

You might want to refer to last week’s CONNECT section. Place an X on each line below.

If you were to rate the “righteousness” of your life by looking at your actions, what would you say?

None Totally Righteous

Now rate your “righteousness” based on what you know is in your heart.

None Totally Righteous

Now rate your “righteousness” based on what God sees when He looks at you in Christ.

None Totally Righteous

What do you notice?

GET WIRED for the week

Lord, I want to rely solely on You. Rewire my heart this week by showing me my self-righteousness. I confess that these are some ways I know I am self-reliant:

NEXT STEP. This week I will:

PRAYERS FOR MY BROTHERS:

PLUG IN
with the guys



- 1 According to Paul, what motivated Peter to turn away from the Gentiles and stop eating with them?
- 2 Does fear or social pressure ever take you off course from following the truth of the gospel? How?
- 3 Do you place your trust in Christ *alone*? What are some other things we are tempted to place our trust in?
- 4 Why does Paul say he had to die to the law in order to live to God (v. 19)?
- 5 Does it feel true to you that the Son of God loved you *personally* and gave Himself for you (v. 20)? Why or why not?
- 5 What does it mean for Christ to live in you? How does this become a reality for you?