

Discussion Questions:

1. Paul opens Ephesians 3 by describing the Galatians as being foolish and easily deceived by false teachers. How are some ways that modern Christians are foolish and easily deceived?
 2. One of Paul's themes is based on a phrase from Habakkuk 2:4. The New International Version shows that the Hebrew word in that verse can be translated as "faith" or "faithfulness." What is the difference in those two words in modern use? How do you understand "the righteous shall live by faithfulness" instead of "the righteous shall live by faith"?
 3. Galatians 4:7 says that Christians are sons of God. Why do you think Paul used the word "sons" instead of "children" in this context?
 4. Galatians 5:1 says not to submit to the yoke of slavery. What kind of slavery was he talking about?
 5. Discuss Galatians 6:7 and how it applies to your society.
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1. "faithfulness" possibly implies more of doing something in response to faith, while "faith" possibly implies more of intellectual assent. 3. In this context, he was talking about heirs, which were typically sons. 4. Spiritual slavery to following the law.

Application Questions:

1. Name a time in your life when you reaped what you sowed in a negative sense, and another time in a positive sense.
2. Consider Galatians 5:17-23. Do you consider the things listed there as complete lists, or simple examples? If you read Galatians 5:22-23 as a partial listing, what other attributes might you add to the ones in those verses?
3. Galatians 6:9 says not to grow weary of doing good. Have you ever grown weary of doing good to the point you quit doing it?

Application Questions for Teens:

1. Think of something that happened to you in the past year when you reaped what you had previously sown. How much time delay was there between the sowing and the reaping? Did that time delay cause you to believe you might avoid the consequences of doing something? If there is a long delay, or you question whether you will ever receive a penalty, do you tend to misbehave more than if the consequences are sure and immediate?
2. Galatians 5:14 says that the whole law is summed up by, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Modern society is trending toward a message of loving oneself while trying not to harm your neighbor. What is the difference between those two descriptions of life?