GALATIANS

Free to Grow

Galatians 4: 8-31

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GALATIANS

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1. Notice the Concern

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[8] Before you Gentiles knew God, you were slaves to so-called gods that do not even exist. [9] So now that you know God (or should I say, now that God knows you), why do you want to go back again and become slaves once more to the weak and useless spiritual principles of this world? [10] You are trying to earn favor with God by observing certain days or months or seasons or years. [11] I fear for you. Perhaps all my hard work with you was for nothing.

- Galatians 4: 8-11 (NLT)

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1. Notice the Concern
2. **Notice Paul's Position**

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12 Dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to live as I do in
freedom from these things, for I have become like you
Gentiles—free from those laws. You did not mistreat me
when I first preached to you. 13 Surely you remember that I
was sick when I first brought you the Good News. 14 But
even though my condition tempted you to reject me, you
did not despise me or turn me away. No, you took me in
and cared for me as though I were an angel from God or
even Christ Jesus himself.

- Galatians 4: 12-20 (NLT)

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15 Where is that joyful and grateful spirit you felt then? I am
sure you would have taken out your own eyes and given
them to me if it had been possible. 16 Have I now become
your enemy because I am telling you the truth? 17 Those
false teachers are so eager to win your favor, but their
intentions are not good. They are trying to shut you off from
me so that you will pay attention only to them.

- Galatians 4: 12-20 (NLT)

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[18] If someone is eager to do good things for you, that's all right; but let them do it all the time, not just when I'm with you. [19] Oh, my dear children! I feel as if I'm going through labor pains for you again, and they will continue until Christ is fully developed in your lives. [20] I wish I were with you right now so I could change my tone. But at this distance I don't know how else to help you.

- Galatians 4: 12-20 (NLT)

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1. Notice the Concern
2. Notice Paul's Position
3. **Notice the Promise**

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21 Tell me, you who want to live under the law, do you know
what the law actually says? 22 The Scriptures say that
Abraham had two sons, one from his slave wife and one
from his freeborn wife. 23 The son of the slave wife was born
in a human attempt to bring about the fulfillment of God's
promise. But the son of the freeborn wife was born as
God's own fulfillment of his promise.

- Galatians 4: 21-31 (NLT)

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24 These two women serve as an illustration of God's two
covenants. The first woman, Hagar, represents Mount Sinai
where people received the law that enslaved them. 25 And
now Jerusalem is just like Mount Sinai in Arabia, because
she and her children live in slavery to the law. 26 But the
other woman, Sarah, represents the heavenly Jerusalem.
She is the free woman, and she is our mother.

- Galatians 4: 21-31 (NLT)

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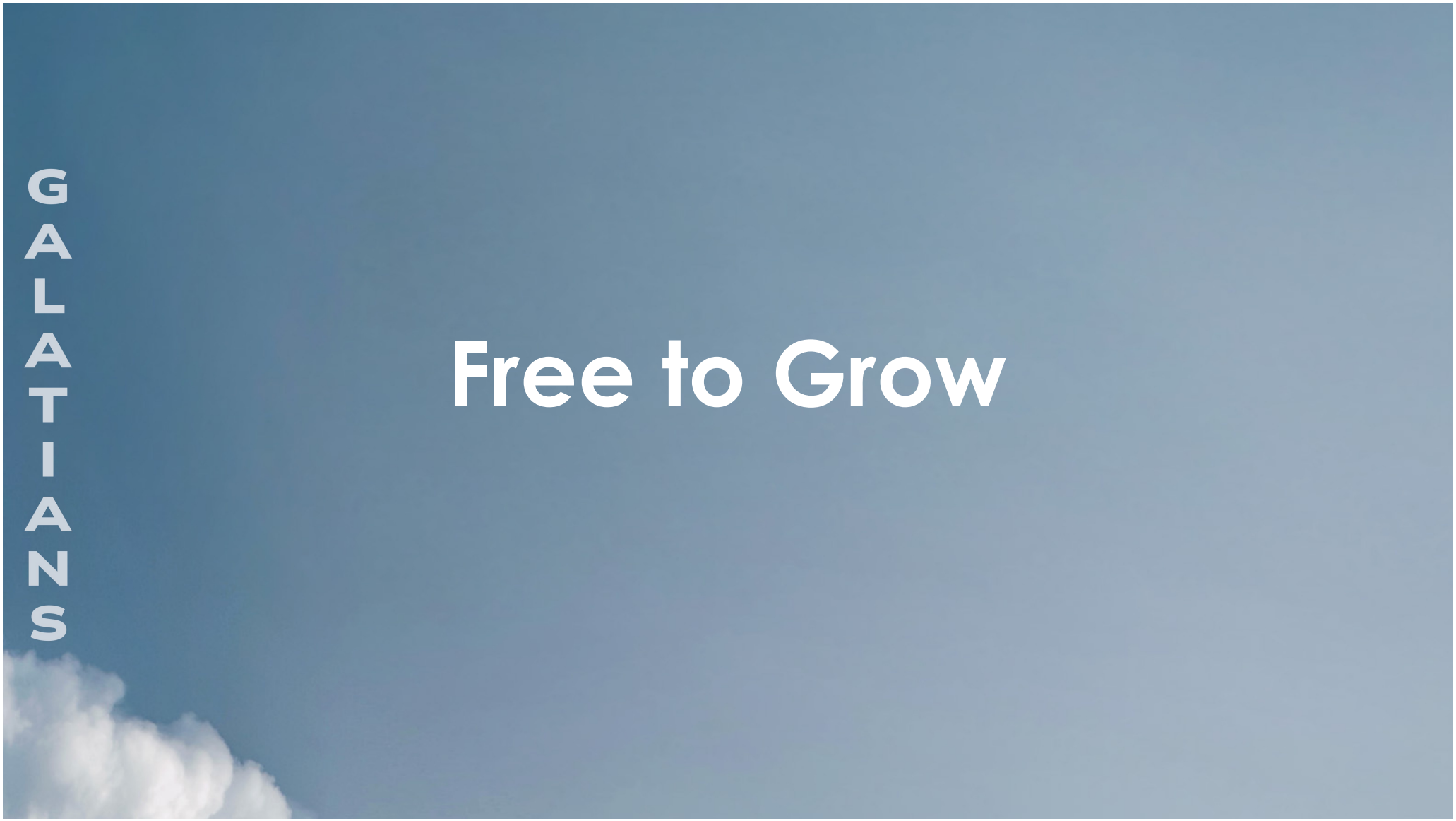
27 As Isaiah said, "Rejoice, O childless woman, you who
have never given birth! Break into a joyful shout, you who
have never been in labor! For the desolate woman now
has more children than the woman who lives with her
husband!" 28 And you, dear brothers and sisters, are
children of the promise, just like Isaac.

- Galatians 4: 21-31 (ESV)

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29 But you are now being persecuted by those who want
you to keep the law, just as Ishmael, the child born by
human effort, persecuted Isaac, the child born by the
power of the Spirit. 30 But what do the Scriptures say about
that? "Get rid of the slave and her son, for the son of the
slave woman will not share the inheritance with the free
woman's son. 31 So, dear brothers and sisters, we are not
children of the slave woman; we are children of the free
woman.

- Galatians 4: 21-31 (ESV)


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