

# Galatians

## Sustaining Freedom in an Enslaved World

---

Rescue. It's a simple word that's quite common to languages all around the world - a word, although plain, that carries enormous significance. Used occasionally in great stories, with magnificent heroes, to signify the end of the climax and beginning of the conclusion; it's very presence on a page has the ability to evoke a sense of relief over its reader. It lets us know that everything is okay, and it will continue to be okay. The victim - once enslaved, held in bondage, and suffering at the hands of her captor - is now free. She's safe from harm's way, and the perpetrator has been dealt with once and for all. So the story goes, right?

But what if the victim doesn't believe she's free? What if she forgets the great lengths her rescuer went to save her, therefore, living in anticipation that her captor will gain control of her again at any minute? What if she lets the fear of what once held her in chains consume her, dismantling her assuredness that she's been set free - free to love, free to serve others, free to forgive, free to live a life worthy of her calling? What would maintaining this belief exemplify to the world around her about the one who rescued her?

This was exactly the message the Apostle Paul wrote to encourage the church of Galatia - who had all but forgotten the freedom they possessed as a result of Jesus Christ's finished work on the cross. No longer held captive to the law of sin and death, but free from the bondage that slavery to the law produced, these early Christians were forgetting what had been done for them. Instead of living a life marked by the Holy Spirit, they were allowing what once enslaved them to debilitate their judgement and cloud the reality that the rescue mission had been completed. Their perpetrator had been dealt with once and for all through the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. Why were they forgetting? What did this mean for not only their life, but the lives of the people in the world around them?

In this study on Galatians, *Sustaining Freedom in an Enslaved World*, we will take an in-depth look at why Paul so fervently warned these early Christians to remember the grace through faith that was poured out on them through the blood of God's precious son, Jesus. We will learn that this gift was freely given to them, as it is to us also. In a world that continually battles to deceive and distract us from remembering who we belong to and what we've been rescued from, we will walk chapter by chapter through Paul's letter and discover tools to fight. Together, we will combat society's lie about the power in "self", and we will look to the Lord of Lords and the King of Kings, Jesus Christ, as the sustainer of our freedom in an enslaved world. Sisters, grab some girlfriends and your bibles, and let's dive into God's word together as we embark on a journey to embracing true freedom!