

**Sons and Heirs**  
**Lesson #15**  
**Galatians 3:24-4:20**

1. Paul's argument to the Galatians about the law versus the promise (Galatians 3:10-23) showed that the law cannot save, it only condemns. The purpose of the law was to reveal sin and to lead us to Christ. And, *"now that faith has come, we are no longer under the supervision of the law."* (Galatians 3:25) What did Paul say takes place when one puts his/her faith in Christ?
  - Galatians 3:24b
  - Galatians 3:26
2. How did Paul describe the new condition when one has been baptized into Christ? (Galatians 3:27b)
3. What is the benefit when one becomes a son (part of God's family)? (Galatians 3:28, 29)

**Reflect:** Think about Paul's audience, the Gentile believers in Galatia. What encouragement do you think they received in verses 26 - 29?

4. Paul didn't want them to misunderstand what he was saying so he used a familiar example, that of the family heir who is still a child. Using Galatians 4:1, 2:
  - What is the status of a child heir?
  - What is the reality?
  - Who is the heir subject to?
  - For how long?

5. Having established his example, Paul said, *"So also when we were children."* What was our reality? (Galatians 4:3)
6. What did God do, *"when the time had fully come?"* (Galatians 4:4)
7. What was God's purpose for doing this? (Galatians 4:5)
  - Please note: what kind of rights did Paul say are received?
8. How is that possible, especially for a Gentile? (Galatians 4:6)

**Reflect:** Paul said it is the Spirit in our hearts that calls out *"Abba, Father."* Please reflect on the importance of the Holy Spirit in this area of the life of a believer.

9. Once again, Paul affirmed their new status in God's family. What did he emphasize this time? (Galatians 4:7)
10. Paul was baffled by the behavior of the Galatian believers and very concerned. What did he say their former condition was and why? (Galatians 4:8)
11. What is their current condition? (Galatians 4:9a)
12. If that is their condition, then what was Paul's concern? (Galatians 4:9b)
13. What did Paul learn that the Galatians were doing that caused him concern? Galatians 4:10)
14. Paul said, *"I fear for you."* Why? (Galatians 4:11)

15. Then he pleaded with these brothers. What did he want them to do? (Galatians 4:12a)
16. Paul continued with his argument of sons and heirs remembering his visit to them. Why did Paul say that he had come to them in the first place? (Galatians 4:13a)
17. It was at that time Paul *"first preached the gospel to you."* How did Paul say they treated him at that time? (Galatians 4:14)
18. What did Paul say was missing in their lives now? (Galatians 4:15a)
19. Paul said, *"I can testify."* What could he testify? (Galatians 4:15b)
20. He asked if he had now become their enemy. Why would he think that a possibility? (Galatians 4:16)
21. Paul, in telling the truth, wrote about those who were *"bewitching"* (Galatians 3:1) the Galatians. What did he say they were trying to do? (Galatians 4:17a)
22. What was their motivation for this? (Galatians 4:17b)
23. Paul said it is *"fine to be zealous"* but the purpose must be good or right in God's eyes. Paul was referring to the gospel versus the law. When did Paul say that they are to be zealous for the truth of the gospel? (Galatians 4:18)
24. Paul's tone finally softened as he wrote as their spiritual parent. Using Galatians 4:19:
  - What did he call them?
  - What did he compare his feeling to in writing this difficult letter?
  - How long did he say that would last?

- What did Paul wish for?

- How did he describe his attitude toward them?