



Wittenberg Door Campus Ministry is a mission work of the American Association of Lutheran Churches.

[www.wittenbergcomo.com](http://www.wittenbergcomo.com)

Facebook [wittenbergcomo](https://www.facebook.com/wittenbergcomo)

Twitter @Wittenbergcomo

Pastor Dave Spotts 573.355.0347 (text or voice)  
503 E. Nifong Blvd. #359  
Columbia, MO 65201-3717

Wittenberg Door Campus Ministry provides on-site pastoral care and Bible discussion groups for the students, faculty, staff, and administration in the collegiate communities in and around Columbia, Missouri.



### **Acknowledgments**

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV Bible® (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. All rights reserved.

**Next Week: Galatians 4:12-16**

**Bring a friend, make a friend!**

## **Galatians Bible Study 14**

### **Galatians 4:1-7**

To remember our context, the apostle Paul has just talked about how the Christian is considered a son of God, and therefore God's heir. This is a radical change of life, described as freedom from bondage.

In Galatians 4:8, Paul says that the Galatians had previously "served those which by nature are not gods." How would we describe the idea of a god? What are some of the gods we or others in our culture might be tempted to serve?

Contrast these false gods with the true God of the Bible. What differences do we find?

In verse nine, Paul asks why the Galatians would want to turn again to the false gods. He describes them as “weak and beggarly.” Why do we seem to like those false gods so much?

Paul expresses a genuine concern for the souls of the Galatians. He is “afraid” for them. In light of this passage, how can we live, recognize the true God, and also recognize some important events on the calendar or enjoy the things of this life without causing fear and concern in Paul?

It is very likely that we will describe our following false gods as something that makes us feel good or that affirms us. Is feeling good or being affirmed something the Bible rejects? How should we deal with this problem?

What might Paul be talking about in verse 10 when he talks about observing different times? Discuss this in terms of the way Christians have typically observed various holidays.

#### **Galatians 4:8-11, ESV**

<sup>8</sup> But then, indeed, when you did not know God, you served those which by nature are not gods. <sup>9</sup> But now after you have known God, or rather are known by God, how *is it that* you turn again to the weak and beggarly elements, to which you desire again to be in bondage? <sup>10</sup> You observe days and months and seasons and years. <sup>11</sup> I am afraid for you, lest I have labored for you in vain.