

Pacific Growth Group Sermon Questions
Week of January 15th, 2023
Sermon Series: Gospel = Life
Sermon Theme: What is Christian Friendship?
Primary Text(s): Galatians 4:12-20

1. **Read Galatians 4:12-20.** From your reading and reflection on this passage, *share with each other the central themes that have emerged from the text.*
2. *What does it mean to live in freedom according to the dominant culture around us? Is this view consistent with the biblical/Christian perspective on a life of freedom?*
3. *With the discussion on Christian freedom that you just engaged in; talk about some approaches we can take to continually live in this state of freedom.*
4. One approach to help us experience Christian freedom that Jon presented to us from his message from Galatians 4:12-20 is **Christian Friendship**. In saying that, five (5) attributes of Christian friendship that Jon highlighted from the text are:
 - i. **Christian Friends are Bonded to One Another (Galatians 4:12)**
 - Being bonded to one another in Christ helps believers to be anchored to truth of the Gospel; and being vulnerable with one another is integral to helping us to maintain our bonds. *Discuss steps you believe churches can take/make that will lead to a culture of appropriate vulnerability being created and maintained amongst their attendees.*
 - ii. **Christian Friends are Careful with One Another (Galatians 4:14)**
 - *Think creatively about strategies that your group can implement to ensure that everyone is cared for and never mistreated.*
 - iii. **Christian Friends Accept One Another (Galatians 4:13-14)**
 - Many people in our world—including local churches—have been in positions where they have faced deep rejection that has caused them to feel unworthy. *It would be great if your group dedicated a few moments to engage in a conversation on how local churches can help their attendees who have endured hurtful experiences of rejection, grow to become a fully accepted congregant.*

iv. Christian Friends Value One Another (Galatians 4:15)

- *Choose an activity/practice that your group can implement to help each participant to be reminded of their immense value to your group, our church, and to Jesus.*

v. Christians Friends are Honest with One Another (Galatians 4:15-20)

- **Read Ephesians 4:15.** *Share with each other what you believe speaking the truth in love means.*
- **Pray for the Holy Spirit to empower your group participants to continually be authentic Christian friends towards one another.**