

UNFILTERED

WEEK 3 GROUP GUIDE

NOT EVEN PETER GETS A PASS

MESSAGE RECAP

GALATIANS 2:11-21

In Galatians 2, Paul confronts Peter because Peter allowed fear of people to change the way he treated other believers. Even though he knew the gospel was for everyone, he separated himself from the gentiles when the Jewish Christians arrived. This fear and hypocrisy spread.

The Gospel stands for everyone. No one gets a pass to live a double life. Fear and hypocrisy can cause us to live a different life when following Jesus might cost us something. But we have good news. Galatians 2:20 says "I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me." Our identity is in Christ, not our failures, past, or approval of others.

This reminds us- Christ is in us. We have been given a new identity in Jesus. That's what being a Christian is... It's understanding that when people see you, they don't see how good you are; they don't see how bad you are. They just see Jesus alive in you. They see that your identity is the same today, tomorrow, this whole week, and the rest of your lives. They see it in your life. Christians live crucified lives.

GROUP DISCUSSION

- Did anything stand out to you from the message this week?
- Read Galatians 2:11-14 together
 - Peter was the first to preach the gospel to the Gentiles, and that the gospel changed the dietary laws of the time. Why is it easy to say one thing, and do something different?
 - Peter stepped back to not be seen with the Gentile Christians because he was afraid of what others might think. Why do you think even strong Christians like Peter can struggle with fear and people pleasing?
- Where are you most tempted to let fear influence your decisions or relationships?
- What does hypocrisy look like in our lives today?
- Hypocrisy is contagious.
 - Where are you tempted to live differently depending on who you're around?
 - What are some things that become easy to justify when "everyone else is doing it"?
- Read Galatians 2:20-21 together.
 - What does "Christ lives in me" look like?
 - What is something in your life that may need to be "crucified" so that Jesus can be seen more clearly in you?
- Your identity is in Jesus.
 - What does this mean to you?
 - How can we live out that identity in our everyday lives?
- End your time in prayer together.

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GOING DEEPER

Acts 10:9-16

Lets do a deep dive on the Apostle Peter.

Peter had three names: Simon (Hebrew), Peter (Greek, meaning little rock) and Cephas (Aramaic, meaning rock). During that time period, because everyone spoke many languages, it was common to have multiple names. Peter was the most recognized leader of the early church. He knew his stuff.

Originally, Peter was a fisherman in Galilee alongside his brother Andrew before Jesus called him. Eventually, he would be the one to walk on the water outside the boat with Jesus. He was a part of the inner circle of disciples, one of Jesus' closest friends.

In knowing this, he is also the one who denied knowing Jesus three times before Jesus' death on the cross.

Peter did some pretty awesome things- but he also had his failings and shortcomings just like us.

In Acts 10, the Lord speaks to Peter in a vision. In this vision, Peter saw many animals. There was then a voice that said to Peter "Rise, Peter; kill and eat.". However, this voice was asking Peter to eat animals that were considered "unclean". In Jewish law, unclean animals were any animals that did not have cleft hooves or chew cud. These animals are pigs, camels, reptiles, ect. Peter, growing up Jewish, would have never have eaten these animals.

But suddenly, this voice from heaven was telling him it was okay. In fact, the voice had to tell him three times. "What God has made clean, do not call common". What power there is in that statement. God was teaching him something much bigger. The Gospel was breaking down barriers that had separated people. The Gospel was not just for Jewish people, it was for everyone.

When Jesus died on the cross for us, we were washed of our sin; made clean.

Our identity is in Jesus.

We cannot listen to the lies of the enemy when he says we are not clean or saved. We are not common- we are empowered with the Holy Spirit, set apart to do good works for the Kingdom of the Lord!

Because of this, we should live lives that represent this sacrifice that Jesus has made.

Christians live crucified lives.