

## Galatians 2:15-21

<sup>15</sup>“We who are Jews by birth and not sinful Gentiles <sup>16</sup> know that a person is not justified by the works of the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in <sup>[a]</sup> Christ and not by the works of the law, because by the works of the law no one will be justified.

<sup>17</sup>“But if, in seeking to be justified in Christ, we Jews find ourselves also among the sinners, doesn’t that mean that Christ promotes sin? Absolutely not! <sup>18</sup> If I rebuild what I destroyed, then I really would be a lawbreaker.

<sup>19</sup>“For through the law I died to the law so that I might live for God. <sup>20</sup> I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. <sup>21</sup> I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!”<sup>[b]</sup>

### Footnotes:

1. [Galatians 2:16](#) Or *but through the faithfulness of ... justified on the basis of the faithfulness of*
  2. [Galatians 2:21](#) Some interpreters end the quotation after verse 14.
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1. The passage today contains a couple of words that Christians often use, but may not fully grasp their meaning. Begin the study by discussing and/or looking up the definitions of the following words: justify/justification and faith.
2. Read Galatians 2:15-21.
3. What words or phrases are repeated in these verses?
4. What two ideas or lifestyles is Paul comparing? Are these lifestyles mutually exclusive? Can someone possess both of them? Explain why or why not.
5. If you had to choose one verse from this passage as a thesis statement for the entire passage, which verse would you pick and why?
6. How does last week’s theme of grace tie in with the message of this scripture?
7. What does it mean to “live by faith”? What would that look like to an outsider?
8. Contemplate how you “live by faith”. Is there an area of your life where your faith needs to be stretched or strengthened? Share with the group. End the study in prayer, focusing specifically on the need for faith in our lives.