

## Faith: Trusting, Walking, Living

*A study in Ruth and Galatians*

### Galatians 2:11–21

1. So far in his letter, Paul has been proving the authority of his apostleship. Why? (Multiple choice)
  - a. because he feels insecure
  - b. because he is proud
  - c. because he wants to prove that the gospel he is bringing is true
2. Read Galatians 2:11–21. Why does Paul share this story? (Multiple choice)
  - a. to embarrass Peter
  - b. to further establish his apostleship
  - c. to state the truth of the gospel
  - d. b and c
3. Paul preached that we should be kind and not rude (1 Corinthians 13:4–5). Is he ignoring his own counsel when he publicly opposes Peter to his face (Galatians 2:11)? Explain your reason.
4. What was Peter's custom before men came from James? (v. 12a)

How did it change when the men from James came? (v. 12b)

5. Peter's change in behavior grew out of fear of the circumcision group (v.12). What were their views? (Acts 15:1, 5)
6. Peter actually knew better. What had he understood about the way Gentiles are saved? (Read his full explanation in Acts 15:7–11.)
7. By continuing to follow Jewish rules and laws (eg., not eating with Gentiles), how was Peter causing confusion about the truth of the gospel (v.14)?

8. The sharpness of the gospel truth is summarized in verse 16, where this whole letter comes to a head. Write the whole verse. (Note: To be justified means to be declared righteous before God.)
  - a . What is Paul's point?
  - b. Why is Paul so insistent on this point? What does it say about the sufficiency of Christ's sacrificial death if we must add circumcision or other laws to it? (v. 21)
9. We get our start in Christ by faith in him. By what means do we live the Christian life after that? (2:20; Romans 1:17; Hebrews 3:12–14)
10. In verses 17 and 18, Paul is addressing the objection that if we eliminate the law, people will be encouraged to live sinful lives. What is Paul's answer to that in Romans 6:15–16?
11. Verse 18 is a difficult verse. Paul seems to be saying that certain people were trying to rebuild the law as a system of gaining righteousness. Why is this sinful (lawbreaking)? (vv. 15–16, 18, 21)
12. The climax is not even that we are saved from death by faith, but that now we can really live! What is possible for you now that was never possible before you placed your faith in Christ? (vv. 19–20)
13. Verse 20 says Christ "loved me and gave himself for me." This is very personal. Embrace it and meditate on it today.