

## **CURSE AND BLESSING**

*Galatians 3:10-14*

### **MAIN IDEAS FROM THIS WEEK**

1. THE CURSE
2. THE BLESSING

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS – Pick two or three of these to talk about as a group**

1. What was most helpful for you from this week's message? Why?
2. What comes to mind when you hear about curses? What about blessings? How did this week's teaching change or reinforce your previous understanding of curses and blessings?
3. In Deuteronomy 28 and in Genesis 3 we can see that the curse includes pain and futility but is ultimately defined by death. Whether or not someone holds to a Christian worldview, everyone has to deal with the problem of death. What are some of the solutions that other worldviews provide for the problem of death? What solution does Christianity offer?
4. How does Ayaan Hirsi Ali's story display the reality of the curse for both religious and non-religious people? What would you say to someone who believes there is no such thing as original sin or its consequences?
5. How would you respond to an unbeliever who asks, "If Christianity is real, shouldn't unbelievers experience hardship (curse) and believers experience benefits (blessing)?" How can you know if the hardship or blessing in your life is due to the path you've chosen?
6. We move from the path of curse to the path of blessing by choosing reliance on Jesus over reliance on the law (or anything other than Jesus). It sounds so easy. Why, then, is it often so hard for people to make that course adjustment? Can you speak to this from your own experience?
7. Blessing is all about life. This includes physical life but goes further to encompass holistic flourishing at the deepest level and to the greatest degree. We often think that this sort of life is only something to be experienced in the future. To what degree can the abundant, eternal life offered by Jesus be experienced now?

**A TRUTH TO TAKE WITH YOU:** Jesus is the blessed one who became a curse so that the cursed ones can receive a blessing.