

## **ADOPTION**

*Galatians 3:26-4:7*

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

1. WHAT THE SPIRIT DOES
2. HOW YOU KNOW IF THE SPIRIT IS ACTIVE IN YOUR LIFE
3. HOW TO GET ACCESS TO THE SPIRIT

### **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. Galatians is for people who know the gospel but are struggling with being transformed by it. Are you frustrated with a lack of transformation in your life? Where do you feel like you most need growth?
3. Christians typically speak of salvation in terms of what Jesus takes away (sin, guilt, shame), but that is only half of the story. Salvation also includes what Jesus gives us. What are some of the benefits that are added to us through Jesus?
4. When the Bible talks about the heart it is referring to the fountain and seat of our thoughts, passions, desires, appetites, affections, purposes and endeavors. With this understanding of the heart, what are some of the primary influences in your life that have shaped your heart? Where do you see evidence of the Spirit shaping your heart?
5. One of the ways the Spirit works in our lives is by moving us from cold, lifeless intellectualism toward a personal experience of passion and feeling. These experiences won't be constant; however, they should occur at least occasionally. Have you ever experienced this in your walk with God? What changes can you make in your life to be in a better position for such experiences? How can you handle the discouragement of periods of waiting?
6. Jonathan Edwards mentioned going out into the woods for divine contemplation and prayer. This occasionally led to him experiencing the excellence of Jesus in profound ways that would leave him in tears. How often do you take times of silence and solitude in nature? Why do you think being out in nature has such an effect on people? When in the next two weeks can you set aside some time to get out into nature for the purpose of divine contemplation and prayer?

**A TRUTH TO TAKE WITH YOU:** Jesus objectively changes our status before God. The Holy Spirit experientially changes our lives.