

# RAISE THE MARK

JULY 2007

## PRAYING THROUGH GALATIANS 2-4

**GALATIANS 2:6-10**

### **PRAISE GOD FOR WHO HE IS**

*As for those who seemed to be important—whatever they were makes no difference to me; God does not judge by external appearance—those men added nothing to my message. On the contrary, they saw that I had been entrusted with the task of preaching the gospel to the Gentiles, just as Peter had been to the Jews. For God, who was at work in the ministry of Peter as an apostle to the Jews, was also at work in my ministry as an apostle to the Gentiles. James, Peter and John, those reputed to be pillars, gave me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship when they recognized the grace given to me. They agreed that we should go to the Gentiles, and they to the Jews. All they asked was that we should continue to remember the poor, the very thing I was eager to do.*

- Thank God for the salvation that you have received through Christ alone and the life-change that has happened in your heart.
- Thank God for the ways He has used Watermark as part of the transformation in your life. Celebrate the victories He's given you and specific areas of life-change.
- Praise God for the different ways He has worked through your life to impact the lives of others. Thank Him for your gifts and how God has used them in the past. Ask Him for opportunities to faithfully serve Him in the future.
- Pray for the leadership of Watermark including the elders and pastors.
- Pray for those who lead the ministries where you are connected or serve.
- Pray specifically for those in your life who have material and spiritual needs.
- Thank God for His provision for your needs and the gift of being able to steward your financial resources for kingdom purposes.

**GALATIANS 2:15-21**

### **EXAMINE YOUR HEART & LIFE**

*We who are Jews by birth and not 'Gentile sinners' know that a man is not justified by observing 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 Christ and not by observing the law, because by observing the law no one will be justified.*

*If, while we seek to be justified in Christ, it becomes evident that we ourselves are sinners, does that mean that Christ promotes sin? Absolutely not! If I rebuild what I destroyed, I prove that I am a lawbreaker. For through the law I died to the law so that I might live for God. I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!*

### **PRAY SILENTLY & ASK THE LORD TO EXAMINE YOUR HEART.**

- Ask God to reveal any area of your life that you use as a standard of being good, righteous, or acceptable to God besides the perfection of Christ and the sufficiency of the cross. Seek forgiveness for:
  - ▶ Any area of your life where you were depending on performance-based acceptance instead of acceptance-based performance.
  - ▶ Any area of your life where you have made decisions that cause others to stumble.
  - ▶ Any area of your life that you have not exposed to the light and invited others in your life or your community group to help you pray through and process.
  - ▶ Any area that is rebellious, selfish, or destructive (a sin of commission).
  - ▶ Any area that you did not act on or in which you failed to act obediently when you knew you should have (a sin of omission).

### **THE LORD'S SUPPER**

## **THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE GOSPEL**

*Consider Abraham: “He believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.” Understand, then, that those who believe are children of Abraham. The Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: “All nations will be blessed through you.” So those who have faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.*

- Thank God for the work of Christ to pay for the penalty of our sin and to make us righteous through belief in Him. Rejoice in Christ as the joy of your salvation.
- Thank God specifically for those who have impacted your relationship with Christ. Pray that God would continue to use Watermark to make disciples that would impact their generation for Christ.
- Pray for your friends and family who have not responded to the Gospel. Pray for boldness and the opportunity to share your story of grace.
- Pray for the children of our church. Pray that they would grow in their faith.
- Pray for God’s work in the city of Dallas; in the United States and throughout the world. Ask the Lord for a heart to be a part of God’s redemptive work—that you may have the eyes of an evangelist and the heart of a missionary.

## **FAMILY TIME**

*What I am saying is that as long as the heir is a child, he is no different from a slave, although he owns the whole estate. He is subject to guardians and trustees until the time set by his father. So also, when we were children, we were in slavery under the basic principles of the world. But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons. Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, “Abba, Father.” So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir.*

As a redemptive gathering of Christ-followers, we have the opportunity to come together as a spiritual family through our unique identity as God’s children. This time is for you to be able to share what God is doing in your life so that others in the family can rejoice with you and pray for you. Pray that God would give you a heart to share how He is at work in your life in a way that would magnify His name. Think about the ways in the last week that you have seen God’s compassion and mercy. Ask God to reveal any area of struggle that you are working through so that you can trust Him more and clearly reflect your relationship as God’s son or daughter. Share an area of victory where God has challenged you to act as a faithful son or daughter who is free instead of as a prisoner to sin. Be prepared to share your victories and trials, as well as what God has taught and continues to teach you.

**AS YOU SPEAK, REMEMBER TO BE AUDIBLE, BRIEF AND CHRIST-CENTERED.**