

WHITFIELD PARISH

St James' Church † St Luke's Church

LIFE Group Notes w/b Sunday 2 March 2008

Christians – slaves or free?

Galatians 4.12 – 5.12

To get going:

1. How do non-Christians view the Christian faith?
2. From where do they get these ideas?

Read Galatians 4 v.12–20

3. Why does Paul ask, in v.15, "*What has happened to all your joy?*"
4. Why are Christians joyful?
5. Why had they lost their joy?

Read Galatians 4 v.21–31

6. In v.24, Paul says "*These things may be taken figuratively, for the women represent two covenants.*"
Can you explain in your own words the idea Paul is trying to convey here?
7. What does it say to us about slavery and freedom in the Christian life?
8. What are Christians freed from?

Read Galatians 5 v.1–12

9. What is the nature of the freedom described in v.1?
10. What exactly is the "*offence of the cross*" mentioned in v.11? How does the cross offend people today?
11. Explain why Paul is so angry in v.12.
12. What do v.13-15 say to the person who argues Paul's teaching in Galatians is effectively saying you can do as you please as long as you believe?