



Mustard Seed Sunday School Lesson Summary for November 9, 2008
Released on Thursday, November 6, 2008

“Learning to Work Together”

Lesson Text: Galatians 2:11–21.

Devotional Reading: Romans 10:5–17.

Background Scripture: Galatians 2:1–3:29.

Read: Galatians 2:11–3:29.

Place: from Syrian Antioch

Time: A.D. 48

GOLDEN TEXT: “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me” (Galatians 2:20).

SCRIPTURE LESSON TEXT:

Galatians 2:11–3:29

11But when Peter was come to Antioch, I withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed.

12For before that certain came from James, he did eat with the Gentiles: but when they were come, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing them which were of the circumcision.

13And the other Jews dissembled likewise with him; insomuch that Barnabas also was carried away with their dissimulation.

14But when I saw that they walked not uprightly according to the truth of the gospel, I said unto Peter before them all, If thou, being a Jew, livest after the manner of Gentiles, and not as do the Jews, why compellest thou the Gentiles to live as do the Jews?

15We who are Jews by nature, and not sinners of the Gentiles,

16Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.

17But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is therefore Christ the minister of sin? God forbid.

18For if I build again the things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor.

19For I through the law am dead to the law, that I might live unto God.

20I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

21I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.

TEACHER'S NOTES ON THE LESSON

Paul's experience with the Judaizing Christians in Antioch will speak to believing children and to any unsaved in your class as well.

Believers will hear they have a special bond with other Christians. They can work and play even with those who are "different," for all are Christ's. He lives in each one.

Those yet unsaved will hear they cannot earn salvation. It is a pure gift, purchased for them by Jesus and received by trusting only Him.

THE OBJECT IN VIEW:

Teach that although believers may differ from one another, God wants them to work together in harmony.

TRUTHS TO STRESS:

1. The way of salvation (by faith in Jesus alone) is the same for everyone.
2. Believers must not let differences keep them from loving one another and working together.

PLANNING VISUAL AIDS:

For Beginning the Lesson, find a picture of Saul and Barnabas.

For Telling the Lesson, you will need Bible-time pictures of a crowd and a group around a table. Make two flash cards: "No" and a cross.

For Helping to Remember, for each student take a small paper cup, a plastic fork, a circle 6 inches across drawn on yellow construction paper, crayons, and scissors (blunt tip). You will need a bag of dirt or sand. Take newspaper to protect the work table from getting soiled.

BEGINNING THE LESSON:

A boy was named John, but his family called him Buddy. A girl's name was Margaret, but people called her Peggy. Remember Saul and Barnabas, those men who took long trips to tell others about Jesus? (Show Saul and Barnabas.) Saul got a new name after he was grown-up. People began to call him Paul, so we will too.

TELLING THE LESSON:

Many Jewish people had already heard the good news that God had sent the world a Saviour. But most of the rest of the people in the world still needed to be told. (Show crowd.) Those people from the rest of the world were called "Gentiles."

It is sad, but the Jewish people and the Gentile people were not friends. A Jewish man would not even eat with a Gentile man unless that Gentile kept all the Jewish rules first. (Show group at table.) Paul and Peter both belonged to the Jewish

people. But God had shown them that Jesus would save anyone, not just Jewish people.

Between their preaching trips, Paul and Barnabas stayed in the town of Antioch where some of Jesus' friends lived. Because of their preaching, many of the Gentiles who lived in that place believed in Jesus now.

Peter probably visited Paul often. Peter was Jewish, remember, but he did not mind eating with Gentiles. (Show group at table.) He knew what God had said.

But then a sad thing happened. Some Jews from Jerusalem came to visit. They wanted to follow Jesus too, but they still thought all believers had to obey Jewish rules. When they heard that the Gentile believers in Antioch did not obey these rules, they said, "No, no!" (Show "No.") "We will not eat with them." How could they ever work together if they would not even eat together?

Peter did not want the new visitors to be unhappy with him, so he stopped eating with the Gentiles too.

When Paul saw that happening, *he* said no. (Show "No.") No, what they were doing was not right. These Gentiles were God's children too. God had forgiven their sins because they believed in Jesus, not because they kept any rules. And believing in Jesus was just what the Jewish men had done to have their sins taken away. Being good did not help *them* be forgiven either.

I am afraid many people today think believing in Jesus and being good and keeping rules is what takes sins away. They think Jesus' sacrifice for us is not enough. They think we have to do good things too, or else God will not forgive us. Paul said no, that is not the way it is. (Show "No.")

Now, it is better to be good than to be bad, but being good is not what takes sins away. Jesus does that all by Himself. (Show cross.)

Never forget that all who become children of God do so the same way—by trusting Jesus alone to be their Saviour. And then, no matter how different from one another people may be, as soon as they believe in Jesus, He wants them to work happily together because they now are in the same big family, God's family. And different people can work together because Jesus Himself comes and makes His home in them all.

TELLING HOW TO LIVE:

Someday you may hear someone say, "I think God will let me into heaven because I go to Sunday school, I say my prayers, and I am good to people." When that happens, you can kindly say, "No (show "No"), that is not the way it is. The Bible says Jesus takes away sin all by Himself."

But people who belong to Jesus do want to please Him. You will want to be with His other children. And one way to please Him is to work with them.

HELPING TO REMEMBER:

Let the children scoop dirt or sand into their cups and cut out the yellow circles (sunflowers). On one side they should print "Jesus' people"; on the other side "work together." Help them cut a ¼-inch decorative fringe around the edge, slide the flowers into the prongs of the forks, and stand the forks up in their cups.

EXPLAINING THE GOLDEN TEXT:

"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me" (Galatians 2:20).

Because Jesus' death on the cross paid for Paul's sins, Paul did not live in sin anymore. It was as if Paul's sinful life had died. That is why he could say, "I am crucified with Christ." In a way he had died with Jesus because he stopped living a life of sin. Jesus was now living in him, causing him to do right.

MUSTARD SEED LESSON ACTIVITIES:

"Learning to Work Together"
(Galatians 2:11–21.)



"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me"
(Galatians 2:20 KJV).

MUSTARD SEED LESSON ACTIVITIES:
"Learning to Work Together"
(Galatians 2:11–21.)

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD:

1. "But when Peter was come to **[ATHENS, ANTIOCH]**, I withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed." Galatians 2:11.
2. "For before that certain came from James, he did **[EAT, LIVE]** with the Gentiles: but when they were come, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing them which were of the **[CLOTH, CIRCUMCISION]**" Galatians 2:12.
3. "And the other Jews dissembled likewise with him; insomuch that **[BARRON, BARNABAS]** also was carried away with their dissimulation" Galatians 2:13.
4. "But when I saw that they walked no uprightly according to the truth of the **[GOSPEL, GRAPSEED]**, I said unto Peter before them all, If thou, being a Jew, livest after the manner of Gentiles, and not as do the Jews, why compellest thou the **[GENTILES, GATEKEEPERS]** to live as do the Jews?" Galatians 2:14.

TRUE OR FALSE:

5. Paul told Peter and Barnabas and the others that they were wrong for treating non-Jewish believers differently. Galatians 2:11–15. **TRUE OR FALSE**
6. Paul told them that people can work their way into heaven by doing good deeds for others, and by praying everyday, and by going to church everyday. He said that Jesus' death on the cross was not enough to save men from their sins. Galatians 2:16. **TRUE OR FALSE**
7. Paul said that he was "crucified with Christ" in order to die to sin and the law. He said that Christ lives in the hearts of all believers. Galatians 2:20. **TRUE OR FALSE**
8. "I do not frustrate the **[GIVING, GRACE]** of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain." Galatians 2:21.

MUSTARD SEED LESSON ACTIVITIES:
"Learning to Work Together"
(Galatians 2:11–21)

W A N T I O C H S V T N K I M
I Z S M E N S R B E S E C I N
T F C B A R N A B A S I P D B
N P R H V E S A V I O U R T H
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P P T U E M E E F E T E F U S
O O V E P F J E W I S H E P L
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P A A G E G E N E W S G O H Q
F C P A U L C L T F P W E Q H
R U L E S M C S M H S L L B C

Antioch
Grace
Paul
Work

Barnabas
Jewish
Rules

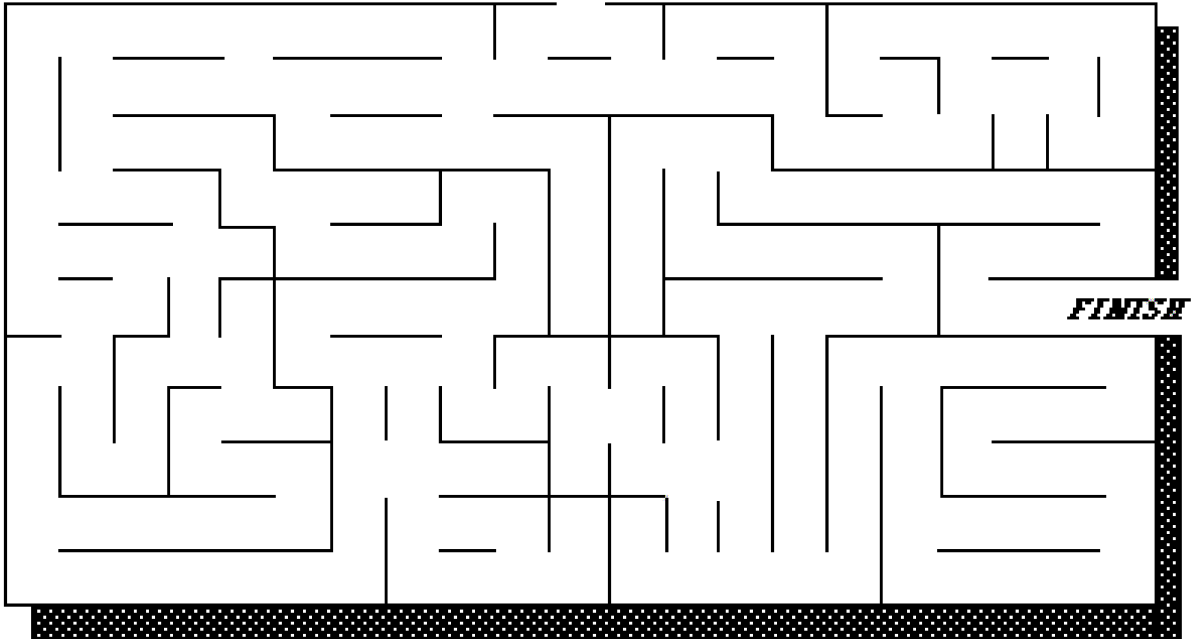
Christ
Loving
Saviour

Frustrate
News
Together

MUSTARD SEED LESSON ACTIVITIES:

"Learning to Work Together"
(Galatians 2:11–21.)

START



FINISH

UNDERLINE THE CORRECT ANSWER:

1. "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but..." **Galatians 2:20.**

- a. no man is an island to himself
- b. I can live forever by my works
- c. Christ liveth in me
- d. why does any one work without love
- e. I do not die for another man's sin

FILL IN THE BLANK:

2. "Knowing that a man is not _____ by the works of the law, but by the _____ of Jesus Christ." **Galatians 2:16a.**

BELIEVED
LOVED
JUSTIFIED
LAW
FAITH
TOGETHERNESS

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The Pulpit Commentary, Spence-Jones, H. D. M. (Hrsg.), Bellingham, WA : Logos Research Systems, Inc.

The KJV Parallel Bible Commentary, by Nelson Books