



## *sermon reflections*

### **Galatians 2:15-21**

We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners; 16 yet we know that a person is not justified[a] by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified.

17 But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we too were found to be sinners, is Christ then a servant of sin? Certainly not! For if I rebuild what I tore down, I prove myself to be a transgressor. 19 For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. 20 I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. 21 I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose.

1. In your own words, what does it mean to be justified? (See study guide p. 67) What is the difference between pursuing justification by works of the law and justification through faith in Jesus?
2. What is the fitting response to knowing that a person is not justified by works of the law? What does it mean to believe in Jesus? How can we know if we are trusting Christ for our justification?
3. What is the law powerless to do (Romans 8:2-4)? What is one of the purposes of the law (Romans 5:20)? Since these two things are true, why is it foolish to return to the law?
4. In what sense have we died to the law and live to God?
5. How does Galatians 2:20 teach what the gospel is and what the gospel does?