



8/28/11

Galatians 2:20-21 and 4:3-7

The Gospel and how it defines our lives.

Materials

Blank paper

Pencils

Crayons

Opening Activity

Have the children reflect on when they were younger. See if they can tell you how they have changed as they have grown up to the age they are now. Ask them to tell you ways they change as they will continue to get older.

Read Galatians 2:20-21 and 4:3-7

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. I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose. . .

In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

Question 1

What causes our lives to change according to Paul?

When Jesus died on the cross He died to destroy our sins. Then He came back to life, having conquered death! And now He gives life to us, who used to be spiritually dead because of our sins against God. When we love Jesus, we have the Holy Spirit living inside of us, and the Spirit helps us change to have our lives look more like God.

Question 2

What does Paul say we can call God now that we have his Spirit?

Paul says we have been adopted into God's family. We can call God our Father, our Daddy!

Question 3

What kinds of ways do you think a child of God lives?

Paul goes on to tell us in Galatians that when the Holy Spirit lives inside a person, the person shows love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control. The person lives that way because they have the Holy Spirit living in them, teaching them the things of God and helping them look more and more like God!

Passage Activity

Remind the children that as we get older, we change – our bodies grow, our hair gets longer, and we might even start to like spinach! When we are saved by Christ and are given His Holy Spirit, we are changed spiritually as well! We are made holy, and our sins are no longer held against us. Plus, the Holy Spirit helps remind us of God's truth and helps to change us so that our lives actually look more and more like Jesus' life! Give each child a piece of blank paper. Have them fold the paper in half. Remember the fruits of the Holy Spirit mentioned in Question 3. On the bottom of the paper have the children draw



themselves without the Holy Spirit in control. On the other half have the children draw their lives with the Holy Spirit in control.

Wrap Up

Remind the children that God has given us a very special gift through Jesus' life and death called the Holy Spirit. Explain to them that Jesus lived the perfect life we couldn't live and that He died on the cross and came back to life so that our sins could be forgiven. If we accept God's promise our reward is the Holy Spirit and eternal life with God. Pray with the children and encourage them to talk to their parents if they have any questions about the Holy Spirit.