

Review:

Lesson 1: Diverging Gospels

Lesson 2: Deconstruction

Christian Cooperation Galatians 2:1-10

One of the clearest benefits of practicing our Christianity in community with others is the orthodoxy that comes from it, i.e., whether and how our gospel message _____ with that which has come before us.

Discussion 1. If your teaching lines up nicely with the teaching that came before you, is that a good thing or a bad thing? When you hear Bible teaching that is different from anything you have heard before, how do you know whether it is good or bad?

Christ followers can show great latitude in a variety of cultural expressions of our faith, but we cannot abide any message that _____ or subtracts from the gospel.

Discussion 2. In your opinion, what are some examples of spiritual things about which Christ followers can disagree? How would you explain to a 6-year-old how those things are different from the gospel message (about which we cannot disagree)?

Part of the freedom we have in Christ is the simple reality that there are mission fields to which we _____, just as we are a part of a mission field to which some others may not be called. Can we be OK with that?

Discussion 3. Part of our freedom in Christ is that there are surely some ministry fields to whom you or I are simply not called. But how do you discern that? How do you know if you are “called” to minister to a particular group?

In a day when we have more Christian denominations and more cultural interpretations of Christianity than we can even count, genuine Christ followers of every flavor still share a common concern for the marginalized and the _____. It is the way of Jesus.

Discussion 4. What are some ways your current church cares for the poor? If you have been in other denominations or other cultural expressions of church, how did they care for the poor? Why do you think it is so important that Christian churches have this concern?