



Topeka Bible Church
The Life of Paul, Episode 14:
"Paul and the Law, #3: The Law of Christ"
Community Group Study Questions

Matthew 5:17-20; 44; 11:29-30; 22:37-40; 28:20; John 13:34-35;
1 Corinthians 9:21; 10:23; 15:10; Galatians 5:1, 14; 2:20; 6:2

1. Read *Matthew 5:44* and *28:20*. How difficult is it for you to "love your enemies?" What might this "love" look like? What steps can you take? How is this command connected to the entirety of Christ's teachings to His disciples (and to us)?

2. What does Paul mean when he writes that it "is for freedom that Christ has set us free (*Galatians 5:1*)? How, if at all, is this freedom connected to our salvation? Where in your life do you struggle to embrace this freedom and how does this struggle affect your relationships with others?

3. Read *1 Corinthians 9:21*. How did Paul use his freedom from the law to more effectively reach others for Jesus Christ? Have you ever had a similar evangelistic opportunity?

4. What danger might have led Paul to use the quotation that he did in *1 Corinthians 10:23*? Do you struggle in any way with abusing the freedom that has been granted to you through your faith in Christ? What changes might you need to make in your life?

5. Read *Matthew 5:17-20*. What is Jesus saying in Verse 20? Does your righteousness surpass that of the scribes and Pharisees? Why or why not? How does God's grace impact your "righteousness" (see *1 Corinthians 15:10*)?

6. What does it mean to be "crucified with Christ" (*Galatians 2:20*)? Why did Paul use this language? How does this "crucifixion" impact someone's ability to live out the "law of Christ?" Have you been similarly "crucified?" Why or why not?

7. How does Christ's "yoke" (*Matthew 11:29-30*) allow us to live out this law of love (*Matthew 22:37-40; Galatians 5:14*)? Why is love the marquis characteristic that identifies Christ's disciples (*John 13:34-35*)? How does this emphasis on love impact how you will spend your time this week?

Memory Verses:

**"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. (35) By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."
(John 13:34-35, NIV)**

**"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."
(Galatians 6:2, NIV)**