Sunday—February 15, 2015 Lesson by Kevin Holmen

## About Initiations / Requirements in order to Join / Belong

Question: what kind of requirements have you had to meet in order to belong to a group?

Passage Reading: how does Galatians 2:1-10 help the Galatian churches?

# Paul Preserves Titus' Freedom in the One Gospel (2:1-3) [cf. 2:5]

Why did Paul go up to Jerusalem? A revelation (2:2). Generous solidarity (2:10).

How would Paul have been running for nothing? (2:2) Had Paul been wrong? Were the Apostles divided?

What would it have been like for Titus?

Not compelled to be circumcised (2:3) His freedom preserved (2:5)

Be free to worship God—sing Hosanna together (Psalm 118:25-26)

### Paul Ranks Influence Below the One Gospel (2:4-6) [cf. 2:2]

Why is influence important—in general society and in the church?

God shows no partiality (2:6)

Non-pejorative: esteemed, influential, pillars (2:2, 6a, 6b, 9) His gospel is independent but *not different* from theirs

Resisting spies who snuck in

Pejorative: sneaks, seeking to enslave (2:4)

Be free to belong—you are welcome in this place

#### Paul Receives Apostolic Fellowship Based on the One Gospel (2:7-10)

Distinctive mission spheres, but no division in mission (2:7-9)

God is the one works in calling both (2:8)

Be free to contribute—remember the poor (v. 10)

#### Exercises:

What benefits of our freedom (belonging to Christ) have we taken for granted?

What requirements are you susceptible to add to the gospel?

Why is important to esteem leadership and subordinate their influence under the gospel?

What does your belonging imply for your belongings?

Narrower: what does this mean in this present season and our specific church? How will Gal 2:1-10 help when life together gets complicated among diverse Christians? What is significant to you about the verbs related to the gospel (2:2, 2:5, 2:7)?

—Likely Chronology and Geography—			
Date	Event	Reference	Lesson
33/34	Paul's conversion	(Gal 1:11:17)	
36/37		(Gal 1:18-24)	[last week]
44-47		(Gal 2:1–10 // Acts 11:25-30)	[this week]
44-47	↓Antioch Dispute, correcting Cephas	(Gal 2:11–21)	[next week]
46-47	First Missionary Journey Paul plants "South Galatia" churches	(Acts 13:13–14:28)	
48	***Paul Writes Galatians***		
48-49		(Acts 15:1–35)	

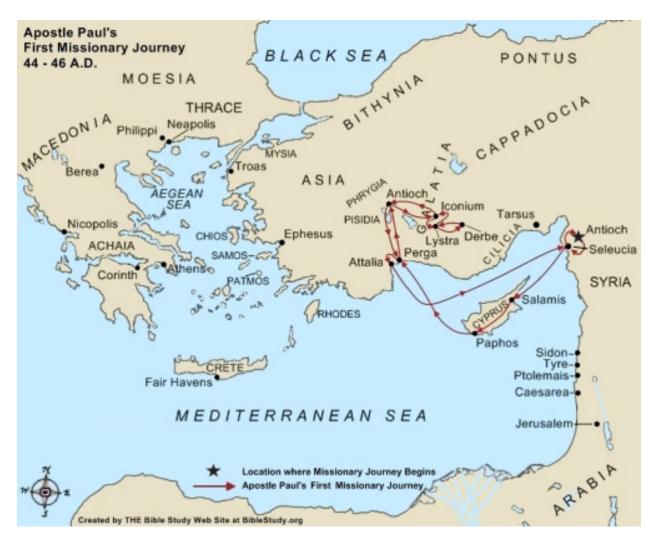


Figure 1 (Source: http://www.biblestudy.org/maps/pauls-first-journey-map.html)