

3 ²⁵But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, ²⁶for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. ²⁷For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

4 I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, ²but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. ³In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. ⁴But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

⁸Formerly, when you did not know God, you were enslaved to those that by nature are not gods. ⁹But now that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God, how can you turn back again to the weak and worthless elementary principles of the world, whose slaves you want to be once more? ¹⁰You observe days and months and seasons and years! ¹¹I am afraid I may have laboured over you in vain.

SET FREE BY CHRIST

Galatians 3:25-4:11

The gospel of sonship (2)

- who am I?

What we are now (3:25-29)

- adopted in Christ (v25-26)
- clothed in Christ (v27)
- one in Christ (v28-29)

What God has done (4:1-7)

- our enslaved condition (v1-3)
- God's timely mission (v4-7)

What we must not do (4:8-11)

- don't turn back

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Anything you want to talk about from what you've heard? "If you want to judge how well a person understands Christianity, find out how much he makes of the thought of being God's child, and having God as his Father". Discuss.