

# Children of Promise

Galatians 4:21-31 | Pastor Caleb Yetton (caleb@trc.life)

**Galatians 4:21-31** Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not listen to the law? <sup>22</sup> For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by a slave woman and one by a free woman. <sup>23</sup> But the son of the slave was born according to the flesh, while the son of the free woman was born through promise. <sup>24</sup> Now this may be interpreted allegorically: these women are two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery; she is Hagar. <sup>25</sup> Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia; she corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. <sup>26</sup> But the Jerusalem above is free, and she is our mother. <sup>27</sup> For it is written, "Rejoice, O barren one who does not bear; break forth and cry aloud, you who are not in labor! For the children of the desolate one will be more than those of the one who has a husband." <sup>28</sup> Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise. <sup>29</sup> But just as at that time he who was born according to the flesh persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, so also it is now. <sup>30</sup> But what does the Scripture say? "Cast out the slave woman and her son, for the son of the slave woman shall not inherit with the son of the free woman." <sup>31</sup> So, brothers, we are not children of the slave but of the free woman.

I. **Those who live by \_\_\_\_\_ are the true \_\_\_\_\_ of promise.**

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II. **Those who wish to be saved by their \_\_\_\_\_ live by the flesh and are like \_\_\_\_\_.**

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III. **Those of \_\_\_\_\_ are reborn of the \_\_\_\_\_.**

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IV. **Those of \_\_\_\_\_ those of faith.**

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### Discussion Questions:

1. What did you learn from these verses?
2. What does it mean to be a "child of promise?" What does living by faith practically look like, as opposed to those who live by works?
3. Why do you think people are tempted to revert back to relying on their own efforts for salvation rather than fully trusting in God's grace?
4. In what ways do you sometimes act like Ishmael—trying to earn God's favor through works rather than through faith?
5. How does being "reborn of the Spirit" change our identity and the way we live? How can we be sure we are living in the Spirit and not in the flesh?
6. Paul speaks of the persecution of those who live by faith by those who live by works of the flesh. Have you experienced this type of opposition by "religious" people because of your faith?
7. How can we encourage one another to fully embrace our identity as children of promise and live in the freedom Christ has given us?

Next Week:  
**Galatians 5:1-6**