

Title: Green Mile

Text: Galatians 2:11–21

Target: The cross didn't just forgive my past, it now defines my present.

1. The Cost of Compromise: Peter's hypocrisy confronted.

- a. **Fear Leads to Failure:** *"For before certain men came from James, he was eating with the Gentiles; but when they came he drew back and separated himself, fearing the circumcision party."* (Vs. 12)
- b. **Failure leads to Fallout:** *"But when I saw that their conduct was not in step with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas before them all, 'If you, though a Jew, live like a Gentile and not like a Jew, how can you force the Gentiles to live like Jews?'"* (Vs. 14)

Question: What fears most often tempt us to compromise our faith or values, like Peter did?

Question: How can our personal compromises negatively impact the spiritual walk of those around us?

2. Clarification of Justification: Faith, not works, Saves.

- a. **Exposes Sin:** *"yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ,"* (Vs. 16a)
- b. **Erases Sin:** *"so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works..."* (Vs. 16b)

Question: In what ways do people still try to earn God's favor through works today?

Question: How does understanding justification by faith alone change the way we view failure and forgiveness?

3. A Crucified Life: Carry Your Cross.

- a. **Crucified with Christ:** *"I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me."* (Vs. 20a)
- b. **Consumed by Christ:** *"And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."* (Vs. 20b)

Question: What does it practically look like to live as someone "crucified with Christ" in your daily routines?

Question: How can we cultivate a deeper awareness that Christ now lives in us?

4. **Confidence in Grace:** Grace alone Sustains.

a. **Grace can't be Canceled:** *"I do not nullify the grace of God,"* (Vs. 21a)

b. **Cross wasn't Cheap:** *"for if righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose."* (Vs. 21b)

Question: Why do we sometimes try to "add" to grace, and what does that reveal about our hearts?

Question: How does remembering the cost of the cross fuel gratitude and obedience in your life?

Takeaway: The gospel isn't behavior modification, it is heart transformation.

Challenge for the Week

Identify one area where you've been living "out of step with the truth of the gospel" (Gal. 2:14). This week, surrender that area to Christ. Don't just try harder, trust deeper. Share with someone in your community group what you're surrendering and invite them to pray with you.