

Paul Opposes Peter - Galatians 2:11-21

Topics: Compromise, Death, Doctrine, Faith, God, Gospel, Hypocrisy, Jesus Christ, Law, Life, Opposition, Righteousness

Open It

- * 1. If a colleague of yours were doing something wrong, how would you confront that person?
- 2. How do you tend to take criticism?

Explore It

- 3. When Peter visited Antioch, what did Paul do? (2:11)
- * 4. Why did Paul rebuke Peter? (2:11-13)
- 5. Why did Peter feel free to eat with Gentiles at one time? (2:12)
- 6. Who pressured Peter to stop eating with Gentiles? (2:12) Why?
- 7. How did Peter's behavior influence other Christians? (2:13)
- * 8. What did Paul say in response to Peter's hypocritical behavior? (2:14)
- 9. What did Paul say to those who were Jews by birth? (2:15)
- * 10. How is a person justified before God? (2:16)
- 11. How does a Christian avoid being a lawbreaker? (2:17-19)
- 12. How is the new life characterized by faith and not works? (2:20)
- 13. How does Christ live out His life through Christians? (2:20)
- 14. How had Peter set aside God's grace? (2:21)
- 15. If righteousness were possible by keeping the Law, why would the Cross have been absolutely useless? (2:21)

Get It

- 16. What hypocritical practices have you seen in churches you have visited?
- * 17. Why is it easier for Christians to live by rules and traditions than by faith?
- 18. If Paul hadn't spoken out against Peter's inconsistency, what could have happened among Hebrew and Gentile Christians?
- 19. How did the matter of legalism provide Paul with the opportunity to spell out the doctrine of justification by faith?
- * 20. How could addressing a problem in your congregation provide a real opportunity for spiritual growth?

Apply It

- * 21. How do you plan to confront troubling behavior the next time you see it in your local fellowship?
- 22. In the future, how can you show courage in resisting well-meaning Christians who want to impose their own rules on others?