

# 2025/2026 WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

1ST YEAR OF A 2-YEAR BIBLE STUDY

GALATIANS 1-4:18

## GALATIANS



I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ.

Galatians 1:6-7

# Women's Ministry Tuesday Evening Bible Study

We will begin a 2 year Study in the Epistle to the Galatians. This year we will be studying Galatians Chapter 1 through 4:18. The Studies are held once-a-month on Tuesday Evenings from September to May (no Study in April). **The Study dates, homework and speakers are on page 3.** After the teaching, we will have optional Small Discussion Groups that meet in various locations to discuss the verses we studied that month and pray together. **When you come to the Study, you will need to register to be in a Small Discussion Group, see page 5 for registration information.**

We invite ladies, Jr. High age and older, to attend the Women's Bible Study. We are sorry, but no childcare will be provided and children are not permitted to attend with the exception of infants not yet crawling whose Moms will only be able to attend the Moms' Group in the Nursery Hallway.

## Bible Study Resources

### Required Resources for the Study this year:

1. **Your Bible** - A Study Bible is also a great resource if you have one.
2. **"Be Free" by Warren W. Wiersbe** - You can purchase this commentary in the Bookstore for \$10.
3. **A Journal** - We encourage you to purchase a journal or a notebook to write out the Scriptures that we are studying each month and anything else that God puts on your heart to share with your Small Discussion Group.

### Optional Study Resources if you would like to use them:

1. Pastor Joe Focht on Galatians - listen on the church app or website. Go to **resources.ccphilly.org** and click on Teaching Library.
2. Pastor Chuck Smith on Galatians - **pastorchuck.org** or **blueletterbible.org**
3. **"Why Grace Changes Everything"** by Chuck Smith - You can purchase this book in the bookstore for \$10.

## The Epistle to the Galatians Introduction

The great theme of Galatians is that of justification by faith without the works of the law. Furthermore, we are not only saved by grace but kept by grace—not by works. Galatians extols Christian liberty—freedom in Christ. Liberty is not libertinism, “use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh,” Paul wrote, “but by love serve one another” (Galatians 5:13).

Legalism in any form—whether circumcision, or ritualism or anything else—will neither save a sinner nor perfect a saint. The Christian life is not controlled by commandments but by the Holy Spirit. “Walk in the Spirit” (Galatians 5:16). That is the message of Galatians for the Christian believer.

The word “gospel,” both in English and in Greek, means “good news,” not “good works” or “good advice.” It is the good news concerning the person and work of Jesus Christ, with the forgiveness and salvation He provides—not information concerning the divine laws we must keep to be saved, as the men troubling the Galatian churches were teaching.

“I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ.” Galatians 1:6-7

The word “another” in verse 6 is *heteros*, meaning “another of a different kind.” That is, the only true gospel is centered on “the grace of Christ.” In verse 7, on the other hand, the word for “another” is *allos*, which means “another of the same kind.” Verses 6 and 7 stress that the so-called gospel that was misleading the Galatians was not really one with just minor variations from the true gospel but was altogether opposite to it, a false gospel.

## Dates, Homework, Speakers

<b>September 30th</b>	Introduction <b>(No Small Discussion Groups)</b>	Cathy Focht
<b>October 28th</b>	Galatians 1:1-10; “Be Free” by Wiersbe Ch. 1	Mindi Love
<b>November 18th</b>	Galatians 1:11-24; “Be Free” by Wiersbe Ch. 2	Sandy MacIntosh
<b>December 9th</b>	Galatians 2:1-10; “Be Free” by Wiersbe Ch. 3	Jean McClure
<b>January 20th</b>	Galatians 2:11-21; “Be Free” by Wiersbe Ch. 4	Jill Martin
<b>February 17th</b>	Galatians 3:1-14; “Be Free” by Wiersbe Ch. 5	Joe Focht
<b>March 17th</b>	Galatians 3:15-29; “Be Free” by Wiersbe Ch. 6	Dee Dee Ricker
<b>No April Study</b>		
<b>May 5th</b>	Galatians 4:1-18; “Be Free” by Wiersbe Ch. 7	Gail Mays

## Bible Study Schedule

6:45 pm:	Doors Open
6:45-7:10 pm:	Registration for Small Discussion Groups in the front foyer
7:15-7:40 pm:	Welcome & Worship (25 minutes)
7:40-8:10 pm:	Teaching (30 minutes)
8:10-8:20 pm:	Announcements
8:20-8:25 pm:	Registration for Small Discussion Groups in the front foyer
8:20-8:50 pm:	Small Group Discussion (30 minutes)
8:50-9:00 pm:	Prayer (10 minutes)
9:00-10:00 pm:	Final Announcements & Fellowship

## Koinonia Cafe

The Koinonia Café will ONLY be open on the following dates and times if you would like to purchase anything and fellowship with one another.

All proceeds go to support missions:



**September 30th from 8:30-9:30 pm (after the Study only)**

**December 9th from 6:00-7:00 pm (before the Study only)**

**May 5th from 6:00-7:00 pm (before the Study only)**

## Homework

Each month we encourage you to read the assigned verses in Galatians that we are studying along with the corresponding chapter in “Be Free” by Warren Wiersbe. You do not need to do the “Questions for Personal Reflection or Group Discussion” at the end of each chapter in “Be Free.” We will be using the same homework format we did for our Psalm 119 Study which is described below.

### How to do the Galatians Study:

1. Pray and ask the Lord to speak to you through His Word. Put the date at the top of the page in your journal.
2. Read the verses in Galatians that we will be studying each month. Take your time and meditate on each verse, and let God speak to you personally.
3. Read the assigned chapter in “Be Free” by Warren Wiersbe. Underline or highlight anything that ministers to you.
4. Write out the first verse in your journal of the verses assigned each month. Writing out the verse will help you remember it. On that verse you could highlight, underline, or circle any words or parts of the verse that have particular meaning to you. You could also look up definitions of words. A Study Bible is a great tool because it has footnotes and cross references that will help you learn more about each verse. Write down the page number of anything from “Be Free” that ministered to you from that verse.
5. Repeat number 4 with the rest of the assigned verses for that month.

*Grace to you and peace from God the Father  
and our Lord Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for our sins,  
that He might deliver us from this present evil age,  
according to the will of our God and Father,  
to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.*

*Galatians 1:3-5*

## Register to be in a Small Discussion Group

1. If you would like to be in a Small Discussion Group, **registration is required.** Please do not go to a group without registering to be in that group. Even if you were part of a Small Discussion Group last year, you still need to register again this year.
2. In order to register, you must come to the Study and register in person. You will not be able to email or call us to register. Registration will take place at a booth in the front foyer before the Study begins from 6:45-7:10 pm and again after the teaching from 8:20-8:25 pm.
3. Once you register to be in a group, the registration ladies will give you a nametag with that group # on it so when you go to the group, the leaders will know that you have registered for their group.
4. When a group is full, no one else can register for that group.
5. If you registered to be in a group but are no longer able to attend the Bible Study, please contact Women's Ministry and let us know so we can remove you from the group. We will then be able to register someone else to be in that group.  
Email us at: [womensministry@ccphilly.org](mailto:womensministry@ccphilly.org) or call us at 215-969-1647.

## Small Discussion Groups

We will have 9 Small Discussion Groups throughout the building and 2 groups specifically for Moms and Widows. All of the groups will be studying Galatians 1-4:18 together. There will be a map showing where all of the groups are located when you come to the Study to register for a group.

### **1. Discussion Group for Widows:**

This group will meet in the Sanctuary (previously met in the Koinonia Room). If you are a widow and would like to be in a discussion group to meet other widows and to encourage one another through this season of life, we are offering this group to you.

## Small Discussion Groups

### **2. Discussion Group for Moms & Moms with infants not yet crawling:**

This group will meet in the Nursery Hallway. If you are a Mom and would like to be in a discussion group to meet other Moms, we are offering this group to you. If you are a Mom with an infant, not yet crawling, you may bring your baby to the Bible Study in the Sanctuary and to this discussion group only. Feel free to bring your baby into the Sanctuary during the teaching and sit in the back by the Prayer Room. If your baby gets fussy or needs to be fed, please take him/her out of the Sanctuary. You may go to the Nursing Moms' Room located in the Nursery Hallway to feed your baby. There will be a closed circuit TV in there where you can continue to watch the Study live. This is the only discussion group that you may bring your infant to, no other children will be permitted to attend and no childcare is provided so you will need to keep your infant with you.

## Additional Information

**Parking & Entering the Building:** Please park in the front parking lot and enter through the main front doors. If you cannot do steps, please park on the Philmont Avenue side of the building and use the Handicapped Entrance.

**Any Questions:** Email Women's Ministry at [womensministry@ccphilly.org](mailto:womensministry@ccphilly.org) or call 215-969-1647.

## CC Philly Website Information

**CC Philly Website:** Additional information will be on our website at [ccphilly.org/womensministry/biblestudy](http://ccphilly.org/womensministry/biblestudy)

**The Study will not be live-streamed:** All of the Studies will be posted on the church website and app. Go to [resources.ccphilly.org](http://resources.ccphilly.org) and click on Women's Ministry.

**Cancellation Information:** In the event of inclement weather, please check the church website at [www.ccphilly.org](http://www.ccphilly.org) for cancellation information.



## Speaker Biographies



### Joe and Cathy Focht

#### **Calvary Chapel of Philadelphia - Philadelphia, PA**

Calvary Chapel of Philadelphia began in 1981 when Pastor Joe Focht started a small Bible study in a catering hall. With a strong emphasis on teaching God's Word verse by verse, the church has grown to minister to around 7,000 people weekly with a variety of outreaches and ministries. Pastor Joe currently teaches three Sunday morning services. His daily Bible teaching ministry, "Straight from the Heart," is heard in Philadelphia on 560 AM WFIL – 7:30AM weekdays. In over 40 years of ministry on the East Coast, more than 20 church plants have come out of CC Philly.

Cathy was saved in 1971 during the Jesus Movement in California and went to Calvary Chapel Costa Mesa where Chuck Smith was her pastor. Joe and Cathy were married in 1978 and have been married for 47 years. Since the church began, Cathy has been the Women's Ministry Director overseeing the Women's Bible Studies and Special Events along with the ladies on her Women's Ministry Board. Joe and Cathy have 4 children and 8 grandchildren. Psalm 119:105 says, "Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." They love God's Word and it has been their guide these many years of ministry.



### Mindi Love

#### **Calvary Castle Rock - Castle Rock, CO**

Mindi received the Lord at a very young age while attending Sunday School at Calvary Chapel Costa Mesa. After a life of complacency as a young adult, she recommitted her life to the Lord. She is married to Dave Love, the pastor of Calvary Castle Rock in Castle Rock, Colorado. At Calvary, she serves in Women's Ministry and has a passion to see women grow in maturity in the Lord Jesus with a hunger for His Word. She and Dave have 4 adult children, 7 grandchildren and 1 on the way!



## Speaker Biographies



**Sandy MacIntosh**

**MacIntosh Ministries - San Diego, CA**

Sandy and her husband, Mike MacIntosh, have been happily married for 59 years. For 41 years, Mike faithfully pastored Horizon Christian Fellowship in San Diego where his son, Phillip, has now transitioned into that role. This new season of ministry is providing Mike and Sandy more opportunities to travel and equip the church worldwide, as

well as reaching those who are hurting and lost. Sandy is an author, she has spoken evangelistically, and has been an encouragement to pastors' wives and women across the United States and internationally. She has 5 children, 21 grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren. The women of Calvary Chapel of Philadelphia have enjoyed Sandy's rich and inspiring teachings from the Word of God for many years.



**Jean McClure**

**Calvary Way Ministries - Corona Del Mar, CA**

Jean went to Westmont College for 2½ years and then transferred to Point Loma and graduated from there. Jean met her husband, Don, at church and were married their senior year in college. After attending Bible College in England they came home to an exploding revival that would later be known as the “Jesus

Movement.” They were on staff at Calvary Chapel in Costa Mesa, CA when Kay Smith, Pastor Chuck's wife, came and taught a Women's Bible Study in their home. It grew so large that it had to move to the church. It was during this time that Jean fell in love with ministering to women. The Lord has given her the privileged opportunity of heading up women's ministries in the churches Don has pastored and sharing through the years at women's retreats and couples retreats with Don. The Lord gave them three boys that have given Jean countless illustrations and now 13 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren that do the same. Don and Jean have a ministry called Calvary Way and they consider it a responsibility to the Lord and to the body of Christ to serve His church by proclaiming God's message in all its fullness. Jean has written a book called “The Trunk: Treasures of God's Faithfulness” which is full of stories from her life that recount how faithful God has been to her.

## Speaker Biographies



Jill Martin

**Calvary Chapel of Philadelphia - Philadelphia, PA**

Jill grew up on Long Island and moved to Philadelphia after graduating from college in 1970. It was in 1971 that her life was totally turned around when she was introduced to the saving grace of Jesus and life has never been the same!

Jill began working as a teacher for the School District of Philadelphia in 1971 until retiring after 34 years. God then opened up several doors where she worked as a foster care and adoption social worker and then she had the joy of joining the staff of Calvary Chapel's Women's Ministry. In 2010, she felt that the Lord was leading her to go back to school to get an MS in Christian Counseling for women. She has had a counseling practice for the last 10 years. Jill says, "It is incredible how God seems to use the experiences and paths of our lives like puzzle pieces forming a finished puzzle that tells of His great mercy and love."

Jill puts it beautifully when she says, "I can say that Jesus has shepherded my soul with great care, wisdom, kindness and a lot of patience all the days of my life even before I knew Him. He has become sweeter and sweeter to me as I grow old with Him."



Dee Dee Ricker

**Calvary Chapel of Philadelphia - Philadelphia, PA**

Dee Dee and her husband, Bill, have been married for almost 45 years, have 2 grown daughters and are now enjoying precious time with their 5 grandchildren. Her relationship with Jesus began in 1987 several years after her mom's passing. For 37 years, she has enjoyed serving the Lord in many different ministries at Calvary including the Women's Ministry Office

Staff, the Women's Ministry Board, Women's Bible Studies, Married Couples' Events, and Home Fellowships. After surviving a heart attack and quadruple bypass surgery in 2024, she considers each day a gift from the Lord. Her favorite hobby is sharing the gospel and the love of Jesus Christ with others.

## Speaker Biographies



**Gail Mays**

**The Widow's Might Ministry - Murrieta, CA**

Gail has experienced many seasons of life in her long-time walk with the Lord. She first came to know the Lord in the early '70's at the height of the revival known as "The Jesus Movement." It was during that time she met and married her husband, Steve Mays. Together they served in the Christian House Ministries of Calvary Chapel Costa Mesa for about 8 years. Then the Lord called Steve to pastor a Calvary Chapel of his own and led them to South Bay where they served together for 34 years. In October of 2014, the Lord called Pastor Steve home after one of his many surgeries. Steve's work is complete now and Gail is certain the first words he heard when he arrived in heaven were, "Well done thou good and faithful servant." Matthew 25:23

Gail herself is carrying on the ministry that the Lord has called her to. She loves ministering to women and plans to continue doing so until the Lord returns or calls her home. Many have asked her how she finds the strength and courage to press on and her answer is the same as it has been during every season of her life: "With Jesus and His Word I am moving forward." Though she's involved in a variety of things, the one thing she loves to do most is minister to women. She can relate to them in so many ways as she has experienced being a wife, pastor's wife, mother, mother of a prodigal, friend, empty nester, grandmother, caregiver, and now in this season, a widow. Gail has a heart for women and their unique calling, and she takes every opportunity to instruct them in the Word of God, believing that it alone has the power to change a life!

The Widow's Might Ministry is a supportive community where widows uplift one another through faith, fellowship, and God's Word. Designed to help widows navigate the challenges of widowhood, it offers encouragement and strength to embrace this new season of life.

"For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory:  
no good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly."

Psalm 84:11

## Outreach for CC Word of Life



**Pastor Mark Abrams**

Women's Ministry will be collecting money for Calvary Chapel Word of Life for their outreaches and ministries to the people of Philadelphia. Donation boxes will be out at the Bible Study on the round kiosk. Last year we were able to give Calvary Chapel Word of Life \$588.69. Thank you for giving so generously!

Calvary Chapel Word of Life was born out of a Bible Study in the YMCA in North Philadelphia led by Pastor Mark Abrams. This study was simply a group of believers coming together who had a hunger for the truth. The desire and emphasis of this ministry was to teach through the entire Bible verse-by-verse, as Paul told those in Ephesus, "For I have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God" Acts 20:27. This small Bible study continued to grow as the Word of God was being taught and became a church plant. Seeking to reach the community with the gospel, the Lord afforded this fellowship the privilege to do countless outreaches serving single moms, fatherless children and the homeless. CCWOL recently moved to a new 67,000 square foot building in Germantown and they have been renovating it. See their website for more information - [www.ccwordoflife.org](http://www.ccwordoflife.org)

Calvary Chapel Word of Life has formed several partnerships with homeless shelters - Self-Incorporated, one of the city's largest homeless shelter agencies in the city, and Woodstock Shelter that services homeless married couples with children. These partnerships afford us countless opportunities to minister to the homeless population long-term.

Calvary Chapel Word of Life is a church plant of Calvary Chapel of Philadelphia led by Senior Pastor Joe Focht. A ministry that God has been growing for over 40 years. They are also an affiliate of the international family of churches started by Pastor Chuck Smith known as the Calvary Chapel Association. The simplicity of their story demonstrates the essence of what Calvary Chapel is about – no show, no gimmicks, no frills – just believers in Jesus Christ who gather to learn His Word, worship Him in song, seek Him in prayer and love one another. "And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers" Acts 2:42.