The Holy Spirit, Lesson 5

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS RELIED ON BY FAITH

Galatians 3:1–14

Key Verse: 3:2

1. What law were some people trying to impose on the Galatian Christians? (6:13,15) What was wrong with that? (5:4–8) What did Paul mean by “trying to finish by means of the flesh”? (3:3b) For what reasons would Christians try to go back to “the works of the law”? In what ways might we be doing this today?
2. According to this passage, how did we receive the Spirit? (3:2b,5,14) (What does it mean that we “received” him? [1Co4:12]) Note how Paul repeats the phrase “rely on” (Gal3:9,10,11). What does it mean to “rely on” faith, and how is this different from relying on the works of the law? (Ro4:4–5)
3. How does our faith in Christ, not circumcision, make us children of Abraham? (Gal3:6–9; cf. Ro4:9–16) What does it mean that God gives his Spirit to all kinds of people? (Ac10:44–48; 11:15–18) What impact should this have on our identity and on view of others? (Gal3:26–29)
4. What is the ultimate outcome for those who try to rely on the law, and why? (3:10–12) What did Christ do for us? (3:13) What was God’s plan through this? (3:14)
5. How does our faith in Christ enable us to “serve in the new way of the Spirit,” not by laws or legalism? (Ro7:4–6) What does this mean to you practically?