

# UNITY & DIVERSITY

GALATIANS 2:1-10

Then after fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, taking Titus along with me. <sup>2</sup> I went up because of a revelation and set before them (though privately before those who seemed influential) the gospel that I proclaim among the Gentiles, in order to make sure I was not running or had not run in vain. <sup>3</sup> But even Titus, who was with me, was not forced to be circumcised, though he was a Greek. <sup>4</sup> Yet because of false brothers secretly brought in—who slipped in to spy out our freedom that we have in Christ Jesus, so that they might bring us into slavery—<sup>5</sup> to them we did not yield in submission even for a moment, so that the truth of the gospel might be preserved for you. <sup>6</sup> And from those who seemed to be influential (what they were makes no difference to me; God shows no partiality)—those, I say, who seemed influential added nothing to me. <sup>7</sup> On the contrary, when they saw that I had been entrusted with the gospel to the uncircumcised, just as Peter had been entrusted with the gospel to the circumcised <sup>8</sup> (for he who worked through Peter for his apostolic ministry to the circumcised worked also through me for mine to the Gentiles), <sup>9</sup> and when James and Cephas and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that was given to me, they gave the right hand of fellowship to Barnabas and me, that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised. <sup>10</sup> Only, they asked us to remember the poor, the very thing I was eager to do.

1. Paul seeks \_\_\_\_\_ with the Apostles even though they were \_\_\_\_\_ on different peoples (\_\_\_\_\_ ≠ \_\_\_\_\_).
2. We must be careful to \_\_\_\_\_ the message of the gospel of Jesus Christ and not allow any \_\_\_\_\_.
3. These “false brothers” were distorting the gospel and trying to \_\_\_\_\_ to the slavery of \_\_\_\_\_.
4. It’s okay to have a different \_\_\_\_\_ in ministry as long as you remember we are all on the same team! Because God shows \_\_\_\_\_.
5. We all have a \_\_\_\_\_ to care for the \_\_\_\_\_.

## TAKEAWAYS:

- \_\_\_\_\_ the gospel.
- Pursue unity.
- Celebrate \_\_\_\_\_ in the Church and its mission.
- Be generous to the poor.

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1. Paul seeks UNITY with the Apostles even though they were FOCUSED on different peoples (UNITY ≠ UNIFORMITY).
2. We must be careful to PRESERVE the message of the gospel of Jesus Christ and not allow any DISTORTIONS.
3. These “false brothers” were distorting the gospel and trying to BIND THEM to the slavery of LEGALISM.
4. It’s okay to have a different FOCUS in ministry as long as you remember we are all on the same team! Because God shows NO PARTIALITY.
5. We all have a RESPONSIBILITY to care for the POOR.

## TAKEAWAYS:

- GUARD the gospel.
- Pursue unity.
- Celebrate DIVERSITY in the Church and its mission.
- Be generous to the poor.