

Let Us Know You're Here

New or regular, we'd love to know you're here today. You can also share a prayer request so our team can pray for you this week.



emmanuelcommunity.org/ecard

New to Emmanuel?



E:Connect is a short class designed to help you learn who we are, what we believe, and how to get connected.

Baptism

Baptism is a public declaration of faith for those who have placed their faith in Jesus. Learn more or take your next step at



emmanuelcommunity.org/baptism

Stay Connected



Our **E:Note** email helps you stay connected beyond the weekend with updates, stories, and next steps from around Emmanuel.

emmanuelcommunity.org/newsletter



February 14 & 15, 2026 | Sons & Daughters - 3 | Galatians 4:21-5:1 | Joshua Wilhite,

A FAMILIAR STORY

Galatians 4:21 Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not listen to the law?

1. Paul again uses the Old Testament LAW to undermine dependence on the works of the law for salvation.
2. He returns to the story of Abraham (Gal. 3:15-20) and recalls when Abraham's faith in God's promise FALTERED.

Galatians 4:22 For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by a slave woman and one by a free woman. 23 But the son of the slave was born according to the flesh, while the son of the free woman was born through promise.

3. In his FLESH, Abraham tried to force God's hand on his own terms (Genesis 15:1-6; 16:1-4; 17:15-21; 21:1-3).
4. The result was a painful PARALLEL.
 - a. ISHMAEL was born of a Gentile slave and was exiled without an inheritance.
 - b. ISAAC was born according to God's promise and was heir to the inheritance.

A SHOCKING TWIST

*Galatians 4:24 Now this may be interpreted allegorically: these women are two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery; she is Hagar. 25 Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia; she corresponds to **the present Jerusalem**,...*

1. Hagar, the enslaved Gentile, represents the Mosaic Law given at SINAI (Exodus 19-24).
2. Hagar, the enslaved Gentile, represents the earthly Jerusalem which is in BONDAGE under the law.

*Galatians 4:25 ...for she is in **slavery** with her children.*

3. What might seem like SECURITY is really slavery.

*Galatians 4:26 But **the Jerusalem above** is **free**, and she is our mother.*

4. Sarah, the free woman, represents the promise of salvation by FAITH alone (Genesis 15:1-6; 17:15-21).
5. Sarah, the free woman, represents the heavenly Jerusalem which is FREE in Christ (Hebrews 12:22; Revelation 3:12; 21:2, 10).

*Galatians 4:27 **For it is written**, "Rejoice, O barren one who does not bear; break forth and cry aloud, you who are not in labor! For the children of the desolate one will be more than those of the one who has a husband."*

6. What might seem so RISKY is really a sure thing (Isaiah 54:1).

Ask Yourself

Am I still waffling between the slavery of earning and gospel freedom?

A BOLD CONCLUSION

*Galatians 4:28 Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise. 29 But just as at that time he who was born according to the flesh **persecuted** him who was born according to the Spirit, so also it is now. 30 But what does the Scripture say? "Cast out the slave woman and her son, for the son of the slave woman shall not inherit with the son of the free woman." 31 **So, brothers, we are not children of the slave but of the free woman.** 5:1 For freedom Christ has set us free; **stand firm** therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.*

1. REMEMBER who you are in Christ.
2. Anticipate the STRUGGLE.
3. Take your STAND.

Ask Yourself

What will I do this week to strengthen my resolve to stand firm in Gospel freedom?

Ask the Lord

Heavenly Father, thank You for Your relentless love for us. Jesus, thank You for laying down Your life and making a way for us to find life through You. Holy Spirit, thank You for the transformation You are working to accomplish in us. God, help us to stand firm in gospel freedom.