Sermon: Two Ways to Live. **Scripture:** Galatians 4:21-31.
Series: *Galatians: Gospel Freedom.* **Date:** November 1, 2026

OBSERVATION — As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through who, what, where, when, how, and why questions together.

INTERPRETATION — Answer these questions together:

1. What does this passage teach us about humanity?

a. Pastor Mark talked about there being "Two Ways to Live": from law/works/slavery or from faith/grace/freedom in Christ. Are you able to identify the difference between these two ways to live in your own daily life? In general, would you say that you are living from gospel freedom?

b. Pastor Mark also talked a bit about shame. Sarah's shame was her barrenness. What produces shame in your life? What "works of the law" do you engage in to cover up your shame? For example: I cover the shame of my childhood by making sure I have a "perfect family." I work hard to get good grades so that I feel as worthy as my siblings.

2. What does this passage teach us about God?

a. Consider both the story of Sarah and Galatians 4:27—"Rejoice, O barren woman." How do these serve as examples of the grace of God, especially for those who are battling shame and weakness?

3. What does this passage teach us about grace and salvation? How does it point us to Christ?

a. How does the birth of Christ to the virgin Mary compare to the birth of Isaac to Sarah? How does Christ's incarnation prove to us that God will graciously give us all we need, apart from our efforts or law-keeping (which only create more shame)?

b. How does our sonship in Christ allow us to rejoice in our weaknesses and shame (4:27) rather than covering them up or hiding from them? Consider also Hebrews 12:1-2.

APPLICATION

a. "Freedom is found in rooting out whatever seeks to enslave us." Is there something (or someone) that you need to remove from your life that is enslaving you? Are your cover-ups more likely to be "younger brother" rebellion or "older brother" self-righteousness? What steps can you take this week to "cast out" (4:30) the sin that enslaves you?

b. What would change in your life if you truly believed that God will provide all that you need by his grace in Christ, and NOT from your own self-efforts or trying to control life's situations?

PRAYER

- Thank God for his grace that gives us all that we need in spite of our weakness and shame.
- Confess ways you try to cover over your shame with law-keeping or self-effort.
- Thank Jesus for being all that we need to make us righteous and shame free.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to let us live in the freedom of faith and promise.