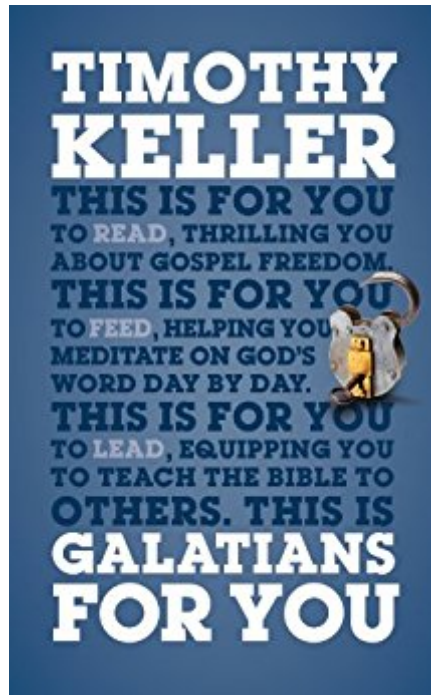


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Galatians For You (God's Word For You)



Synopsis

Galatians For You is a new curriculum tool you can use to learn or teach from the book of Galatians. Both student and teacher can use it to walk through Galatians, learning how the gospel message changes the whole of our lives. Combining a close attention to the detail of the text with Tim Keller's trademark gift for clear explanation and compelling insights, this is a uniquely flexible curriculum resource. It can be utilized by anyone who has a teaching ministry, to help small-group leaders understand and apply the text in their study groups, and to give preachers helpful ways of connecting timeless Bible truths to today's world. It can be used as a daily devotional, complete with reflection questions. Or it can be read for personal study and edification. Galatians For You has an accompanying small-group study guide, Galatians: Gospel Matters: Seven Studies for Groups or Individuals, which can be bought separately. This is the latest curriculum resource from New York pastor and bestselling author Tim Keller, and the first in the new God's Word For You series.

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Customer Reviews

Galatians for You by Timothy Keller

In this new series of commentaries published by the Good Book Company (U.K.), the design is to give readers a snapshot of biblical books with an eye towards solid commentary on application. In *Galatians for You*, Pastor Timothy Keller expounds the book of Galatians around the central theme of the gospel. He writes, "But in this short letter, Paul outlines the bombshell truth that the gospel is the A to Z of the Christian life. It is not only the way to enter the kingdom; it is the way to live as part of the kingdom. It is the way Christ transforms people, churches and communities" (9). Living out the gospel and the consequences in believing the gospel helps address the main contextual aspects of Galatians from the Jewish/Gentile arguments to racial division. Furthermore, what is apparent throughout the book is that the permanent nature of the gospel being central to all things runs right through the heart of every page, helping the reader to focus on the main thesis. In Keller fashion, the commentary breathes through with a theology that is both edifying and Christ-centered. Commenting on Galatians 1:4a, Keller writes, "He did all we needed to do, but cannot do. If Jesus' death really paid for our sins on our behalf, we can never fall back into condemnation" (16). The notion of substitutionary atonement gives the Christian real hope because there is no reason to be condemned anymore, the full burden and weight of sin and its destructive power has been vanquished. What I greatly enjoyed in each chapter, including this one, is Keller's insistence in outlining the universality of the gospel and its implications while continually drawing us toward the particularity of the meaning of the gospel for Paul and us. How does Keller do this?

In his newest book, *Galatians for You*, Tim Keller wants readers to have the powerful message of Galatians explode in their hearts. Why? Galatians is all about the gospel, and the gospel is something everyone needs everyday. *Galatians for You* is the first in a series being published by The Good Book company out of the U.K. These books are meant to serve as a guide to understanding books of the Bible, as devotional helps, or as a leader's guide for preaching or small group study. I'm excited about this, as it looks to be an exciting and beneficial series. In the simplest terms, *Galatians for You* is a layman's commentary of Galatians. Keller tackles a section of Galatians per chapter (the six chapters of Galatians are spread out over thirteen chapters in the book), seeking to draw out the meaning of the text. Thankfully, the contemporary application is not a tack-on at the end of each chapter; rather, applications are helpfully woven throughout the exposition. Every chapter also includes three questions for personal reflection. Keller includes a short, but insightful introduction to Galatians, and a very handy glossary that readers will find helpful, particularly if they are unfamiliar with Christianity in general or biblical language in particular.

There is also a three-page appendix on the recent debate concerning "the new perspective" on Paul and justification. Academic types may find Keller's solution too abbreviated, but it is a helpful explanation and the average reader will benefit from its simplicity. As you would expect, anything produced by Tim Keller is going to have biblical, culturally-aware, gospel-centered content. Galatians for You is no different. Keller hammers home the idea that the gospel is not the ABCs of the Christian life.

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