

Agape
Life
Bible
Study

connect **360**

A Cry for Freedom

GRACE THAT IS STILL AMAZING

A STUDY OF GALATIANS

Lesson 8

The Slow Fade of Faith

Galatians 4:12-20



March 15, 2026



Bible Study Prayer

**Father, as we turn to the Bible,
What we know not - teach us,
What we have not - give us,
What we are not - make us,
For your Son's sake,
Amen.**



The Slow Fade of Faith - Galatians 4:12-20

**The Slow Fade
of Relationship
Galatians 4:12-20**



The Slow Fade of Faith - Galatians 4:12-20

The Slow Fade of Relationship - Galatians 4:12-20

**What do you learn about
the relationship between
Paul and the Galatian Christians
in each verse of this passage?**



The Slow Fade of Faith - Galatians 4:12-20

**The Slow Fade
of Devotion to Christ
Mark 14:27-31; 46-50**



The Slow Fade of Faith - Galatians 4:12-20

The Slow Fade of Devotion to Christ - Mark 14:27-31; 46-50

After the Last Supper

Jesus told them, “All of you will desert me. For the Scriptures say, ‘God will strike the Shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.’

But after I am raised from the dead, I will go ahead of you to Galilee and meet you there.” Peter said to him, “Even if everyone else deserts you, I never will.” Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, Peter—this very night, before the rooster crows twice, you will deny three times that you even know me.” “No!” Peter declared emphatically. “Even if I have to die with you, I will never deny you!”

And all the others vowed the same.



The Slow Fade of Faith - Galatians 4:12-20

The Slow Fade of Devotion to Christ - Mark 14:27-31; 46-50

Later in the Garden of Gethsemane

Then the others grabbed Jesus and arrested him.

But one of the men with Jesus pulled out his sword and struck the high priest's slave, slashing off his ear.

Jesus asked them, "Am I some dangerous revolutionary, that you come with swords and clubs to arrest me? Why didn't you arrest me in the Temple? I was there among you teaching every day. But these things are happening to fulfill what the Scriptures say about me."

Then all his disciples deserted him and ran away.



The Slow Fade of Faith - Galatians 4:12-20

The Slow Fade of Devotion to Christ - Mark 14:27-31; 46-50

Slow Fade or Fast Fade and Fast Exit?

Verse 31

All of the disciples vowed that they would never deny Jesus.

Verse 50

All of the disciples deserted him and ran away.



The Slow Fade of Faith - Galatians 4:12-20

The Slow Fade of the Church

Revelation 2:4-5; 3:15-16



The Slow Fade of Faith - Galatians 4:12-20

The Slow Fade of the Church - Revelation 2:4-5; 3:15-16

The Church at Ephesus

**Yet I hold this against you:
You have forsaken the love you had at first.
Consider how far you have fallen!
Repent and do the things you did at first.
If you do not repent, I will come to you and
remove your lampstand from its place.**



The Slow Fade of Faith - Galatians 4:12-20

The Slow Fade of the Church - Revelation 2:4-5; 3:15-16

The Church at Laodicea

**I know your deeds, that you are
neither cold nor hot.**

I wish you were either one or the other!

Because you are lukewarm

—neither hot nor cold—

I am about to spit you out of my mouth.





Final Thought



The Galatian Christians had allowed influential Judaizers to distract them from the Truth of the Gospel.

The Disciples of Jesus had allowed the distractions of fear and uncertainty to lead them to abandon the One they loved.



🤔 Final Thought 🤔

The Galatian Christians abandoned the teachings of Paul to follow the stifling, legalistic methods of the Judaizers.

The Disciples of Jesus abandoned Him to follow their fear and uncertainty into hiding.





Final Thought



The churches at Ephesus and Laodicea abandoned their love of Jesus to follow their own desires and self-esteem until they became ineffectual at best and disgusting at worst.



 **Final Thought** 

Guard your heart. It will happen again!

**Then you will be arrested, persecuted, and killed.
You will be hated all over the world because
you are my followers.**

**Many will turn away from me
and betray and hate each other, and many false
prophets will appear and will deceive many people.
Sin will be rampant everywhere,
and the love of many will grow cold.**

Matthew 24:9-12



Next Week!

Agape
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Study

The Cost of Freedom

Galatians 4:21-31



March 22, 2026

