**Sermon Guide: *Finding Wisdom: (3) In Paul’s Rebuke***

**Galatians 3:1-9 October 28, 2012 A.M.**

1) “You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you?” (v1)

 In Diterich Bonhoeffer’s great book ***Life Together,*** Bonhoeffer says,

 “The word of admonition and rebuke must be ventured.

Nothing can be more cruel than the leniency which abandons others to their sin.

 Nothing can be more compassionate that the severe reprimand which calls another

 Christian in one’s community back from the path of sin.”

 --***Life Together, page 107***

 **What factors make us hold back from venturing a word of rebuke?**

 **Why can it be “cruel” to abandon others to their sin?**

**When you were a child did anyone every speak a word of rebuke that helped you?**

 **Please share.**

2) “Understand, then, that those who believe are children of Abraham.”

 The Galatian converts were willing to add a host of Jewish laws to their belief in Christ

 Because the Judaizers basically taught: “those who are circumcised are children

 of Abraham.”

 In his essay ***The Inner Ring,***  C.S. Lewis speaks of the power of the “inner ring” to make

 good people do horrible things.” But not everyone agrees.

**Which statement 1), 2), or 3) best reflects the truth as you see it:**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ will compromise their values to be accepted.**

**1) Most people, 2) Some people, 3) A few unstable people**

Explain your answer.

3) “Does God **give** you his Spirit and work miracles among you because you observe the

 Law, or because you believe what you heard?” (v2)

 The Greek word the NIV translates give is epichorego. The prefix ”epi” intensifies the

 Idea so some translate this, “Does God abundantly supply” or “lavishly give”.

 **In what areas do you need to pray that God will abundantly supply you with fresh gifts**

 **of strength and direction this week?**

(Also pray for faith that believes He will give you what you need.)