

Ridin' For The Brand-Up The Galatians Trail

Trail Stories

1. The heart of the story is common to us all, an encounter with Jesus

Galatians 1:11-12 (NLT) Dear brothers and sisters, I want you to understand that the gospel message I preach is not based on mere human reasoning. (12) I received my message from no human source, and no one taught me. Instead, I received it by direct revelation from Jesus Christ.

Romans 10:17 (NLT) So faith comes from hearing, that is, hearing the Good News about Christ.

2. The details of Paul's story up the trail and of yours are unique

Galatians 1:13-20 (NLT) You know what I was like when I followed the Jewish religion—how I violently persecuted God's church. I did my best to destroy it. (14) I was far ahead of my fellow Jews in my zeal for the traditions of my ancestors. (15) But even before I was born, God chose me and called me by his marvelous grace. Then it pleased him (16) to reveal his Son to me so that I would proclaim the Good News about Jesus to the Gentiles. When this happened, I did not rush out to consult with any human being. (17) Nor did I go up to Jerusalem to consult with those who were apostles before I was. Instead, I went away into Arabia, and later I returned to the city of Damascus. (18) Then three years later I went to Jerusalem to get to know Peter, and I stayed with him for fifteen days. (19) The only other apostle I met at that time was James, the Lord's brother. (20) I declare before God that what I am writing to you is not a lie.

Psalms 139:16-17 (NLT) You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed. (17) How precious are your thoughts about me, O God.

3. All the trail stories are linked by visible life change

Galatians 1:21-24 (NLT) After that visit I went north into the provinces of Syria and Cilicia. (22) And still the Christians in the churches in Judea didn't know me personally. (23) All they knew was that people were saying, "The one who used to persecute us is now preaching the very faith he tried to destroy!" (24) And they praised God because of me.

Isaiah 55:11 (NLT) It is the same with my word. I send it out, and it always produces fruit. It will accomplish all I want it to, and it will prosper everywhere I send it.

1 Thessalonians 2:13 (NLT) Therefore, we never stop thanking God that when you received his message from us, you didn't think of our words as mere human ideas. You accepted what we said as the very word of God—which, of course, it is. And this word continues to work in you who believe.