

ONLY THE BROKEN

Week 9 | Only The Broken | September 20, 2015

Opening Up:

- Is asking for help easy or difficult for you? Explain.
- Are you a good delegator? Why or why not?
- Why is it sometimes easier to serve than to be served?

Reference: Galatians 4:21-31

Discuss:

1. Religion says, "Obey, believe, and be saved." Christianity says, "Believe, be saved, and obey." What is the difference between these two presentations?
2. Abraham decided to rely on himself to make God's promises come to pass. Have you ever done something similar? What were the results?
3. Explain the difference between self-reliance and God-reliance. What makes relying on God difficult? What difference does relying on God make in your life?
4. How can you counsel yourself or others to be more God-reliant?
5. When have you seen God do what seems impossible in your own life or in the lives of those around you?
6. Hagar's son was born out of self-reliant work. Sarah's son was born as the result of God's promise received in faith. Hagar's son represents slavery. Sarah's son represents freedom. How do self-reliant works enslave us? How does trusting the promises of God in faith free us?
7. How might you counsel someone who needs encouragement without teaching them to be self-reliant and instead teaching them how to be God-reliant?
8. Self-reliant people tend to be proud, anxious, and bigoted. This is because their acceptability rests entirely on their performance. God-reliant people tend to be humble, peaceful, and accepting. This is because their acceptability rests entirely in the performance of Christ. How have you seen this to be true in your life or the lives of others?
9. Abraham's family was blessed to be a blessing. How might you do more than preach the good news? How might you be the good news? Where is God calling you to be a child of this promise?
10. Pray.