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**LESSON** **8a**: “Relating to God: Let’s Compare” **Date**: November 2, 2014

**TEXT:** Galatians 3:23-4:7

**INTRODUCTION**

In Galatians 3:23-4:7, Paul compares two different ways of relating to God, and he does so by considering their “pros and cons.” Paul is evaluating faith in Christ and adherence to the Law, as competing means of relating to God. As he compares and contrasts these different methods, it becomes clear that while both have “pros,” the absence of “cons” in the way of faith in Christ makes it the excellent choice. Yes, ***relating to God through faith is than relating to God through the Law***.

In essence, Paul adds one more argument to his repertoire as he defends salvation by grace alone through faith alone: the of faith (3:23-4:7). Paul proves the excellence of faith by it with the Law in two areas.

**COMPARING THEIR (3:23-29)**

1. ***The ministry of the (vv. 23-24) — its function:***
2. ***, us under sin (v. 23)***

***Application***:

1. ***, directing us toward (v. 24)***

The Law was always an and not a .

* First, Paul “is saying that the Jews were not through the Law, but rather were by the Law.”
* Second, there was nothing about the ministry of the guardian, but it served a necessary .
* Third, the ministry of the guardian was only a one.
* Fourth, the ultimate goal of the guardian was the of the children.
* Finally, the guardian worked in with the father, not independently of him.

***Application***:

1. ***The ministry of (vv. 25-29) — its offer:***
2. ***(vv. 25-26)***
3. ***(vv. 27-28)***
4. ***(v. 29)***

***Application***:

***Application***: John 1:16-17

**CONCLUSION**

Stott writes, “We cannot come to Christ to be justified until we have first been to Moses to be condemned. But once we have gone to Moses, and acknowledged our sin, guilt and condemnation, we must not stay there. We must let Moses send us to Christ.”

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