



# YOUTH

session page

## Prepositional Problems

Galatians 2:15-21 | Session 8.24

### Before the Session

Facilitator: In advance of the session

- Review today's scripture text and the session activities to help better facilitate the discussion.
- Have the Bible Background Video ready to view.
- Listen to the FaithElement podcast for this session.
- Have pencil and paper ready.
- Have a pencil and piece of paper available for each person.
- Use the social media prompts on this session's webpage to help youth begin engaging the session ahead of their gathering.
- Be prepared to show a web site to the group (see below).

### Intro

Show the [Abbot and Costello Clip](#) and ask:

- What is so funny about his clip?
- When have you been in a discussion what you simply could not understand?
- Why do you think some people feel this way when it comes to reading the Bible?
- What parts of scripture leave you confused and why?

## Context

Form two teams and have each team sit in a line, side by side, facing their opponent on the other team. At one end of the lines, put some kind of item for the teams to grab. It could be a stuffed animal, a ball, or even a bar of soap in a bucket of water. At the other end, place a leader with a coin, and have the members of each team join hands.

Tell the group:

*We are going to flip this coin so that the first person in each line can see the result. If the result is tails, the teams will do nothing except flip again. If the result is heads, the first person should squeeze the hand of the person beside them, who squeezes the next hand, and so on, until the last person has their hand squeezed, and they try to grab the item before the other team. If a team successfully grabs the item first, they receive ten points. If a team squeezes hands and grabs the item when the result was a "tails," or if they "skip" a member. they will lose ten points.*

After making sure that everyone knows the rules, start play, having the first player move to the back and play until everyone on each team has had a chance to be first in line, then ask these questions:

- What was the most difficult part of this game?
- How did your team respond when it made a mistake and why?
- How did it feel to have to rely on other people to be successful at this game?
- How often do you have to rely on other people in real life, and for what?
- In what ways is your spiritual journey reliant on the actions of other people?
- In what ways is your faith reliant on the actions of God?

## Content

Read [Galatians 2:15-21](#), then watch the Bible Background Video.

Ask your group:

- What does it mean to be “justified?”
- What do you think is the difference between being justified by “faith in Christ,” as opposed to be justified by “faith of Christ?”
- Why is such a thing important to some people?
- To what degree is justification dependent upon our own actions and how much is dependent upon God’s actions and why?

## Closure

Give each person a piece of scrap paper and something with which to write and ask:

- To what degree do you feel alright about wrestling with scripture and why?
- How do you feel about wrestling with people’s thoughts about God and why?

On the pieces of scrap paper, have each person list a question that they have about God or a struggle they have in understanding scripture. It may be appropriate to give them some examples and time to think.

Collect the questions, and read them aloud to the group, encouraging the group to share their answers, after cautioning them to respect differing opinions and ideas. Some questions may lead to answers, some to no answers, and some may simply lead to more questions. Remind the group that the struggle is as valuable as the answers.

Close this session in prayer that you all may have the strength to wrestle with difficult questions and the courage to hear difficult answers.

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