

**The Contrarian Way**  
**Message One: Defending the True Gospel**  
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**Galatians Chapter One**

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Discussion Questions

1. Discuss the idea that every religion seeks to answer the question, "How can I be rightly related to God?" Is this at the heart of all religions?
2. Have you seen other religions that attempted to approach God on the following bases? What do you think of these approaches?
  - Ritualism - follow the proper religious practices
  - Legalism - keep all the religious and moral rules
  - Asceticism - make all the proper sacrifices
  - Activism - perform all the right good works
  - Mysticism - learn the right occult practices
3. The gospel presents a new paradigm that differs from the approaches above in that it is not about what I can do for God, but what God has done for us. How different is this from the other approaches? What difference does this make? Why?
4. The Judiazers attacked Paul's message and wanted to make people add Jewish traditions to the gospel. In Gal. 1:7 Paul says the Judiazers do three things - they bring an illegitimate gospel, their message was confusing, and they were perverting the gospel. Have you ever encountered anyone who wanted to add something to the gospel? Explain how you have seen that. In what ways did their "gospel" have these three flaws that Paul saw in the Judiazers?
5. Discuss the ways this radical gospel of grace challenges our pride, our wisdom and judgmentalism.

