

Jesus. and That's All.

Galatians 6

Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently. But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted. 2 Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. 3 If anyone thinks they are something when they are not, they deceive themselves. 4 Each one should test their own actions. Then they can take pride in themselves alone, without comparing themselves to someone else, 5 for each one should carry their own load. 6 Nevertheless, the one who receives instruction in the word should share all good things with their instructor.

7 Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. 8 Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. 9 Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. 10 Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

11 See what large letters I use as I write to you with my own hand! 12 Those who want to impress people by means of the flesh are trying to compel you to be circumcised. The only reason they do this is to avoid being persecuted for the cross of Christ. 13 Not even those who are circumcised keep the law, yet they want you to be circumcised that they may boast about your circumcision in the flesh. 14 May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which[a] the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. 15 Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is the new creation. 16 Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule—to the Israel of God.

17 From now on, let no one cause me trouble, for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus.
18 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen.

vs. 1-6 - What does the word "accountability" mean? What manner is the accountability carried out and how is this a gift within the church?

- Practically speaking, how is this practiced? Ultimately, see Matthew 18:15-18.
- According to vs. 3, who should we also check?
- Consider the often misunderstood words of Jesus in Matthew 7:1-5 - "Do not judge, or you too will be judged. 2 For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. 3 "Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? 4 How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? 5 You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

vs. 7-8 - What does it mean to say that in regard to your Christian life you “reap what you sow?” Consider, if you spend most of your life raising your child to be a great hockey player you will likely end up with a _____.

vs. 9-10 - In a letter that is all about not being saved by your works, what is Paul certain to mention in these verses?

- Why is doing good works sometimes tiring? What is God's promise?
- Why does Paul call us to start with good works within the family of believers?

vs. 11 - Paul begins his concluding remarks. He makes the Galatians note that it is his own handwriting. The large letters might be because of his ailment. Recall 4:13 & 15.

vs. 12-13 - Paul then moves to sum up the main topic of the book. What does he note about the motivations of the troublemakers? How does this make sense given what they are about?

vs. 14-18 - There is only one thing a Christian boasts about? What happens to our witness if we boast about anything else?

- One last time, what doesn't “count?”
- What does Paul call the Christians in this verse 16? How is this significant?
- What are the marks Paul bears and what is the last thing Paul bids the Galatians?