

Final Thoughts to the Galatians

Lesson #19

Galatians 6:1-18

Paul had been teaching that, as a believer, one is not *"to gratify the desires of the sinful nature."* To clarify, he gave a list of obvious sins then he said to *"crucify the sinful nature with its passions and desires."* (Galatians 5:24) Instead, one is to *"live by the Spirit,"* which will produce *"the fruit of the Spirit"* beginning with love, joy and peace. (Galatians 5:22) Understanding that to do so results in a constant battle within oneself, he continued teaching on how to live in community with other believers.

1. What did Paul say they were to do if someone (a believer) was (is) caught in a sin? (Galatians 6:1a)
2. What word of caution did Paul add? (Galatians 6:1b)
3. What practical advice did Paul give in Galatians 6:2a?
4. He said in doing so *"you will fulfill the law of Christ"*. What is that law? (Galatians 5:14)
5. What did James call that law? (James 2:8)
6. How did Paul say that someone could deceive his/her self? (Galatians 6:3)
7. Using Galatians 6:4:
 - What should each person do?
 - What should not be done?
8. In verse 2 Paul said to *"carry each other's burdens."* In verse 5 he said that *"each one should carry his own load"*. Make sure to keep everything in context then reread verses 3-5. What do you think Paul was implying in Galatians 6:5?

9. What did Paul say that a student of the Word should do? (Galatians 6:6)
 10. Once again Paul warns about being deceived. Using Galatians 6:7:
 - What did Paul say about God?
 - What did he say about man?
 11. Tying his points about living *"in the Spirit"* together in verse 8:
 - What did Paul say is the end result of sowing (or pursuing) to please the sinful nature?
 - What is the end result of sowing *"to please the Spirit?"*
 12. What encouragement did Paul give to the Galatians? (Galatians 6:9)
- Reflect:** on these words of encouragement by Paul. Are there times when you want to give up and turn toward the sinful nature side? When discouragement sets in, memorize or reread these words of Paul. They are also a promise; "we will reap a harvest." So don't give up! Call on other believers to come alongside and help bear your burden until God gives the victory!
13. Rather than focusing on self, what did Paul encourage the believers to do as *"we have opportunity"*? (Galatians 6:10)
 14. Just before Paul concluded this letter, he added a personal note. What did he say to authenticate that this letter was from him? (Galatians 6:11)
 15. Taking one last opportunity to return to his argument against circumcision, what did he say about those who were trying to compel these Gentiles to be circumcised? (Galatians 6:12)
 16. What hypocrisy did Paul point out in these *"compellers"*? (Galatians 6:13)

17. What did Paul say about boasting? (Galatians 6:14a)

- Why? (Galatians 6:14b)

18. Paul concluded his teaching on circumcision by stating that whether a man is circumcised or not doesn't matter. What did he say counts? (Galatians 6:15)

19. What benefit did Paul say comes to those who "*follow this rule?*" (Galatians 6:16)

20. Surely, the Galatians understood what Paul meant, but for our clarity turn to another one of Paul's letters; how did he define this in 2 Corinthians 5:17?

21. Paul concluded his letter by saying that no one should cause him trouble; why? (Galatians 6:17)

22. What greeting did Paul open this letter with? (Galatians 1:3)

23. How did he close this letter? (Galatians 6:18)

Reflect: In Paul's closing blessing, rather than saying "be with you" he chose to say "*your spirit.*" In light of what Paul has been saying throughout the last two chapters, do you see any significance in this change?