

MESSAGE

FREE TO LIVE

FREE: A STUDY ON GALATIANS | FEBRUARY 7/8, 2015 | PASTOR MATT ERICKSON

GALATIANS 6:1-18

"May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world." (Galatians 6:14)

Living to Love – free from pride (Galatians 6:1-6)

- "Carry each other's burdens"
- "Test your own actions"

Living to Plant – free from foolishness (Galatians 6:7-10)

- "A man reaps what he sows"
- "At the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up"

Living by the Cross – free from fear (Galatians 6:11-15)

- "the only reason they do this is to avoid being persecuted for the cross of Christ"
- "May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ"

Living by Grace – free from earning (Galatians 6:16-18)

- "Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule"
- "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit"

STUDY GUIDE

1. This week we conclude our series "Free: A Study on Galatians" by looking at Galatians, chapter 6. Before you begin, pray that God would speak to you through your study of the Scripture. Next, read Galatians 6 out loud.
2. The first part of Galatians 6, verses 1-10, continues Paul's train of thought begun in Galatians 5:13 about living by the Spirit. How does Paul practically instruct the Galatian believers about life in the Holy Spirit in verses 1-7?
3. Why do you think Paul brings together the ideas of carrying another's burden and taking pride in ourselves in these verses?
4. Have you ever struggled with pride when confronted with another's sin or difficulties? What did you do?
5. With verses 8-10, Paul confronts the tendency to take advantage of freedom in Christ for "acts of the flesh" (5:19). What does Paul call the believers toward in these verses?
6. Why do you think Paul includes phrases like "let us not become weary" or "if we do not give up" in the context of doing good deeds?
7. How would you describe what it practically looks like to "sow to please the Spirit" (6:8) in our lives?
8. In the second part of Galatians 6, verses 11-18, Paul summarizes and concludes the letter. He emphasizes – "see what large letters" (6:11) – the contrast between him and his opponents. What is that contrast and why is it important?
9. What would you say Paul means by his strong statement in verse 14? What does that truth mean for you in your life?
10. What is your biggest take-away from this study or the entire series on Galatians. If you are with a small group, discuss that with one another and pray for one another. If you are studying on your own, write it down and share it with someone this week.

[Next week: *We begin a new series entitled "Chosen Words" from Jesus' teaching in John 13-17. Take a look at this entire section of John's Gospel and read chapter 13 to prepare.]*