

Group Bible Study/Discussion:

1. Read Galatians 6:1-16. What strikes you in this part of Paul's letter? What questions come to mind? How might this have sounded to the first recipients of this letter?
2. Read Galatians 5:25-26. How do these verses connect to & open the conversation Paul has from 6:1 onward? How do verses 1-2 provide a practical example of 5:25-26?
3. How are verses 2 & 5 actually **NOT** contradictory? How is carrying one's own load different from bearing the burdens of others?
4. How does Paul's brief statement on being generous in support of the church's ministry fit in here? (v. 6) To what sin are all of us vulnerable? If we sow to our own desires (flesh) with our financial gifts & neglect the support to those who nurture our spiritual lives, what do we risk?
5. What else do we risk in terms of relationships, family support, the life of the church & its witness if we sow solely to our own desires in other areas of our lives? (be as specific as you can)
6. Why is fatigue such a danger in the serving community? How did Jesus avoid it? How can we?
7. Why were the formerly Jewish Christians trying to compel the Gentile Christians to be circumcised & keep the Jewish Law? What do we know was at stake in that debate? How does Paul address that issue here?
8. How is Paul's "boasting" different from the legalist faction? What does Paul claim as the game changer in his life?
9. How would you explain verses 14 & 15? How do these verses lead us into a life dedicated to loving service of others within & outside the community of faith?
10. How does verses 14-16 not only conclude this section of the letter but sum up much of Paul's concern for the Galatian church beset by the attempted imposition of Jewish Law over against their freedom in Christ?

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

Living Water Fellowship

7th Sunday in Easter – 12th May 2024

COME TO JESUS

GATHERING SONG: Goodness of God (*Maranatha*)

WELCOME & PRAYER OF THE DAY:

SONG: The Lord is By My Side (*CityAlight*)

GROW IN HIS GRACE

BIBLE READING: Galatians 6:1-16

¹ Dear brothers & sisters, if another believer is overcome by some sin, you who are godly should gently & humbly help that person back onto the right path. And be careful not to fall into the same temptation yourself. ² Share each other's burdens, & in this way obey the law of Christ. ³ If you think you are too important to help someone, you are only fooling yourself. You are not that important.

⁴ Pay careful attention to your own work, for then you will get the satisfaction of a job well done, and you won't need to compare yourself to anyone else. ⁵ For we are each responsible for our own conduct. ⁶ Those who are taught the word of God should provide for their teachers, sharing all good things with them.

⁷ Don't be misled—you cannot mock the justice of God. You will always harvest what you plant. ⁸ Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful nature will harvest decay & death from that sinful nature. But those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit. ⁹ So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up. ¹⁰ Therefore, whenever we have the opportunity, we should do good to everyone—especially to those in the family of faith.

¹¹ NOTICE WHAT LARGE LETTERS I USE AS I WRITE THESE CLOSING WORDS IN MY OWN HANDWRITING. ¹² Those who are trying to force you to be circumcised want to look good to others. They don't want to be persecuted for teaching that the cross of Christ alone can save. ¹³ Even those who advocate circumcision don't keep the whole law themselves. They only want you to be circumcised so they can boast about it & claim you as their disciples.

¹⁴ As for me, may I never boast about anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. Because of that cross, my interest in this world has been crucified, & the world's interest in me has also died. ¹⁵ It doesn't matter whether we have been circumcised or not. What counts is whether we have been transformed into a new creation. ¹⁶ May God's peace & mercy be upon all who live by this principle; they are the new people of God

CHILDREN'S TIME

FAITH CHAT:

1. How do other Christians recognize your love for them?
2. How do you exercise the love of Christ in you for those not yet in the family of disciples?

THE MESSAGE: *LIVING EXCLUSIVELY...FOR OTHERS*

OFFERING SONG: I Want to Know You (*CityAlight*)

PRAYERS:

OUR CHRISTIAN CONFESSION: *THE APOSTLES' CREED*

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, & sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty, from thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE COMMUNION:

Words of Institution & The Lord's Prayer:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, & the glory are yours now & forever. Amen.

Worship during Communion: You Are My All In All

GO IN HIS POWER

BLESSING:

**† _____, child of God,
Christ lives in you for the sake of someone else!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

SONG: Jesus Strong & Kind (*CityAlight & Colin Buchanan*)

SHOW HIS LOVE

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HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!