



## Answers

1. Salutation to the letter: Galatians
  - 1:1 – the writer of the letter is the apostle Paul
  - 1:2 – the recipients of the letter are the churches of Galatia
  - 1:3 – the greeting of the letter
2. Jesus Christ and God, the Father.
3. It was important for the Galatians to understand that Paul's apostleship came from Jesus Christ and God because the Judaizers were trying to undermine Paul's authority.
4. The Judaizers were certain Jews who had influenced the Galatian churches. They were teaching that salvation was not through faith in Christ alone, but that one also had to keep the requirements of the Mosaic Law.
5. He affirmed that salvation is by God's grace alone. The work of Christ on the cross saves. Salvation is not by a person's own work of keeping the law, or of any other good works that he might do.
6. The Lord Jesus Christ. He is the One who gave Himself for our sins.

## Discuss / Consider

1. Paul was surprised that the Galatians had, in such a relatively short time, turned to a different gospel. What kind of distortions to the pure gospel of God's grace are prevalent today?

2. To be accursed (anathema) means to be eternally condemned. This curse is pronounced on anyone who adds to or takes away from or changes in any way, the gospel that was handed down from the apostles. In what ways might the gospel be added to, or changed, today?

## Challenge

1. Many people do not like to hear that they cannot work their way to heaven, or Jesus Christ is the only way to heaven. They'd rather believe that there are many ways to heaven. There are those who believe that sincerity is sufficient to become heaven bound. Such preaching would be appealing to most people, but it would not be the truth. Do you want to be a servant of Christ (Galatians 1:10)? Then don't preach a distorted gospel or preach to please people. Preach to please God and to honor His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, who died for the sins of the world.



## Answers

1. Saul actively sought out and persecuted Christians until he met the Lord Jesus. As he neared Damascus, a light shined around him from heaven; he fell to the ground and heard a voice asking, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?" Saul identified the voice as the Lord's. Then Saul asked the Lord what he wanted him to do. At that point Saul remained blind for three days. The Lord Jesus spoke to both Saul and Ananias (a disciple of the Lord). The Lord assured Ananias that Saul was His chosen vessel to bear His name to the Gentiles, before kings, and to the Jews. Saul (Paul) realized that he had been called from birth to preach the gospel among the Gentiles. He went into Arabia for three years, then he went to Jerusalem.
2. Paul was from Tarsus, in the region of Cilicia. He returned home to share the gospel.
3. The Judaizers were distorting the pure gospel of Jesus Christ and they tried to undermine Paul's authority as an apostle. So Paul did this to defend both his authority as an apostle and the gospel he preached, that both came directly from the Lord Himself.
4. Revelation is direct communication; a divine truth from God.
5. All the religions in the world are human-works oriented except biblical Christianity. Biblical Christianity is uniquely different in that man does nothing for salvation and God does everything.

## Discuss / Consider

1. Paul's life had been totally works-oriented in the past, but now he lived by faith according to the gospel given to him directly from the Lord. Paul recognized that his life was programmed by God Himself. How about you? As a believer, do you realize that your birth, your conversion, and your area of service are all programmed by the Lord? (Jeremiah 29:11). Recall other Scriptures that assure you of God's leading in your life.
  
2. After Paul's conversion, he went to Arabia for a retreat, spending time alone with the Lord, studying the word and looking for the Lord's guidance. Have you taken time out for an Arabian Retreat? Do you spend serious quality time with the Lord?

## Challenge

1. The apostle Paul was "religious" before his dramatic conversion on the way to Damascus to persecute Christians. Now he was saved and had a relationship with God through Jesus Christ. Question: Are you "religious," or do you have a relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ? Have you had a Damascus Road experience, having confessed your sins, realizing that Christ died as your substitute for those sins? Have you received Him as your Lord and Savior?

**Paul Continues to Defend His Apostolic Authority**  
**Galatians 2:1-10**

**Background**

**Doctrinal Points**

1. **The right use of Christian liberty is important in Christian living.**
  
2. **The right hand of fellowship is important in Christian service.**

**Practical Application**

1. **Let's be eager to remember the poor.**

**Questions**

1. When was the epistle to the Galatians written?
2. What is the subject of the epistle to the Galatians?
3. Was Paul inconsistent by having Timothy circumcised, but not Titus?
4. Was circumcision necessary for salvation?
5. Were Peter, James and John in total agreement with the gospel that Paul preached?
6. To which group of people did the Lord send Paul? To which group did He send Peter?
7. Explain what is meant by the term, "the right hand of fellowship."

## Answers

1. The dating depends on which visit to Jerusalem Paul is referring. He made two visits to Jerusalem, one recorded in Acts 11, before his first missionary journey, and one in Acts 15, after his first missionary journey. Therefore, Galatians could have been written as early as 48 or 49 A.D., and would be Paul's first written epistle. On the other hand, it could have been written in the mid-50s A.D.
2. Salvation is by grace through faith alone, not of works.
3. No. There were good reasons for Timothy to be circumcised (see Acts 15:3). Paul had Timothy circumcised to emphasize his Jewishness because he did not want to offend the non-Christian Jews that they were seeking to reach with the gospel. If, on the other hand, Titus had been circumcised, it would have been seen as a capitulation to the demands of the Judaizers, and the truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ would have been distorted and compromised.
4. No. But there was nothing wrong with being circumcised.
5. Yes. In fact, they gave the apostle Paul the right hand of fellowship when they realized that God raised up Paul specifically to bring the gospel to the Gentiles.
6. Paul was chosen of the Lord to preach to the Gentiles. Peter was chosen of the Lord to preach to the Jews.
7. It means that there is approval and agreement with a fellow believer's message and ministry.

## Discuss / Consider

1. Review the reasons why Paul had Timothy circumcised, yet not Titus. Discuss how this illustrated the right use of Christian liberty. Consider some parallel examples on a mission field today, how missionaries make the right use of Christian liberty. These examples can apply to believers as they witness today. Are there times when you have chosen to use Christian liberty so there will be neither offense nor compromise?
  
2. The Lord's disciples in Jerusalem extended the right hand of fellowship to Paul because they were in agreement with the gospel that he preached. Have you observed this within your church setting?

## Challenge

1. Paul said, *"They desired only that we should remember the poor, the very thing which I also was eager to do."* (Galatians 2:10) The Lord Jesus said, *"You have the poor with you always, and whenever you wish you may do them good."* (Mark 14:7). There are people all around us who need to hear the gospel, and there are poor people all around us that need help. Do you consider this your mission, too? Do you set aside time and money to help in this type of ministry?

**Paul Rebukes Peter for His Treatment of the Gentile Believers  
Galatians 2:11-21**

**Background**

**Doctrinal Points**

**1. Justification is not by the works of the law. (Galatians 2:15-18)**

**2. Sanctification is not by the works of the law. (Galatians 2:19-21)**

**Practical Application**

**1. Let a good marriage be an illustration of practical sanctification.**

**Questions**

1. Why does Paul give us the record of his rebuke of Peter?
2. What was the basic error committed by the false teachers called Judaizers?
3. There were two kinds of Judaizers. Who were they and what was the difference?
4. How were the Gentiles looked upon by the Christian Judaizers?
5. Which type of Judaizer is described in Galatians 2:4? Which type of Judaizer is described in Galatians 2:12?
6. Were all of the early apostles in the Jerusalem church completely free of the influencing effect of Judaism?

## Answers

1. It is part of Paul's argument to show the false teachers of Judaism that Paul's apostolic authority and the gospel he preached was acknowledged by the Jerusalem church to be from the Lord. Even Peter, who was rebuked, acknowledged Paul's authority.
2. They did not understand God's grace and they insisted that salvation was not a free gift from God. They taught that you had to work for your salvation by keeping the requirements of the law of Moses.
3. There were the non-Christian Judaizers and the Christian Judaizers. The non-Christian Judaizers were legalist Pharisees, who did not acknowledge Christ in any way, and said that salvation was obtained only by keeping the requirements of the Mosaic Law. The Christian Judaizers, on the other hand, acknowledged Christ as the Messiah and His work on the cross as payment for the penalty for sin. But they believed also that you had to work at keeping the requirements of the law.
4. The Gentiles, who did not have the law of Moses, were at best, considered second-class citizens and at worst, were made to submit to the legalism of Judaism before they could become Christians.
5. Galatians 2:4 describes the unbelieving Pharisaic Judaizers who had infiltrated the church. In Galatians 2:21, the "certain men" were Christian Judaizers.
6. No. The Lord's half-brother, James, even though he was a pillar in the Jerusalem church, was not at that time completely free from the influencing effect of Judaism. The same was true of Peter at this point, when he gradually withdrew and separated himself from the Gentile believers. That is why Paul rebuked him.

## Discuss / Consider

1. Justification means to be declared righteous before God. Is your understanding clear that Justification is not by works but by faith alone? How would you speak to someone who was justifying his salvation by his works (going to church, being baptized, doing good things for people)?
2. Sanctification means to become more godly and holy as a Christian. As to our legal position and standing before a holy God, believers are sanctified. Galatians 2:20 also covers practical sanctification. The goal and aim of the Christian is to walk with the Lord and to live by faith in the Son of God. Are you sanctified in your position before a holy God? Are you sanctified in your practice before a holy God?

## Challenge

1. The church is the bride of Christ. Think of your relationship with the Lord as a good and honorable marriage, where you fall more in love with your Savior day by day. Walk with Him and practical sanctification will take place in your life. How much do you love the Lord Jesus Christ? How closely do you walk with Him?



## **Salvation is By Faith Alone, Not a Mixture of Faith and "Works"** **Galatians 3:1-9**

### **Background**

### **Doctrinal Points**

- 1. Receiving the Holy Spirit is by faith, and not by works. (Galatians 3:1-5)**
  
- 2. Righteousness from God is by faith, and not by works. (Galatians 3:6-9)**

### **Practical Application**

- 1. Don't use Galatians 3:7 to spiritualize Israel.**

### **Questions**

1. In Galatians, Paul is straightening out problem that arose in the churches of Galatia. What was this problem?
2. Why is it essential to know and understand God's way of sanctification?
3. What is meant by "sanctification?"
4. Refer to Galatians 3:1. What does the term "bewitched" mean?
5. According to Scripture, is salvation by faith alone, or by works, or by a mixture of faith and works?
6. According to Scripture, is sanctification by faith alone, or by works, or by a mixture of faith and works?

## Answers

1. False teachers, known as Judaizers, had come in and were preaching and teaching a different gospel than Paul was preaching and teaching. The Judaizers were wrongly teaching that you had to add works of the law to your faith in order to be saved.
2. Because, as believers, it affects our whole way of living.
3. Sanctification is to be made more holy or more godly.
4. It means to be cast under an evil spell by an evil influence of the devil.
5. Salvation is by faith alone.
6. Sanctification is by faith alone.

## Discuss / Consider

1. Sanctification comes about by yielding your mind and body to the Lord, and by letting the Holy Spirit empower the new life that you have in Christ. Weren't you saved by faith alone? Are you now walking with the Spirit, who dwells in every believer?

2. Righteousness from God is by faith, and not by works. How would you challenge someone who proclaims salvation by works?

## Challenge

1. Galatians 3:7 should not be used to spiritualize Israel. This does not mean that God has done away with His promises to the natural descendants of Abraham, namely, the Jewish people. These promises will be fulfilled in the future. Read Romans 11 in this connection.



## Answers

1. Because Justification is by faith alone, and people don't naturally believe it – then or today.
2. In order to get to heaven, we must believe in Christ Jesus by faith. As the perfect Son of God, He went to the cross and died for the penalty of our sins. You must receive Him into your heart and life by faith.
3. They said that it couldn't be that simple. They said that you had to add the works of the law for salvation and sanctification.
4. It refers to those who try to obtain favor with God by keeping the law.
5. It is the ten commandments and all the other commandments of the Old Testament.
6. Nothing, except that it is not good enough for salvation, and it is humanly impossible.

## Discuss / Consider

1. We have already seen that no one can obtain favor with God by keeping the law. The curse of the law is removed only through faith in Jesus Christ. Have you believed and received the work of Christ by faith?

2. God did not give the law as a way of salvation, for salvation comes by faith in the promise of God. The requirements of the law do not invalidate the promise of God. Salvation is in Christ (the Seed), and not in the law. Ponder this carefully and thank God for His plan of salvation.

## Challenge

1. *"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God..." (2 Timothy 3:16)* Inspiration is the process by which God superintended the writers and writings of Scripture. Paul believed in the verbal inspiration of Scripture, down to the very words and letters. Paul's argument hinged on whether the word "seed" in the promise to Abraham of Genesis 22:18 is singular or plural. Note *Galatians 3:16*, *"And to your Seed, who is Christ."* Do you believe in the verbal inspiration of Scripture?

**The Purpose of the Law**  
**Galatians 3:19-29**

**Background**

**Doctrinal Points**

1. The law revealed the condition of everyone under sin. (Galatians 3:22)
  
2. The law prepared the way for faith in Christ. (Galatians 3:23-25)

**Practical Application**

1. Don't make Galatians 3:28 say what it doesn't say.

**Questions**

1. Select a, b, or c. The theme of this epistle is a. justification by good works b. justification by faith c. justification by faith plus good works.
2. What is the penalty for sin?
3. What is God's plan of salvation for us?
4. What were the false teachers in Paul's day teaching as a means for salvation?
5. What is meant by sanctification?
6. What were the false teachers teaching about sanctification?
7. Are works the means of salvation and sanctification?

### Answers

1. b. Justification by faith alone
2. Death (Romans 6:23)
3. God will forgive our sins and declare us righteous if we turn to Him in faith and receive Christ as our Savior. God can do this because Jesus died on the cross as our substitute, and paid the penalty for our sins with His own perfect life.
4. They were teaching that you had to do works of the law for salvation, along with faith.
5. Sanctification means becoming more godly or more holy in your Christian life.
6. They were teaching that you had to do works of the law for sanctification.
7. No. Works are the result of salvation and sanctification.

### Discuss / Consider

1. *"The Scripture has confined all under sin." (Galatians 3:22)* What does this mean? Even though God's law leaves no doubt that everyone is under sin, the promise of salvation by faith in Jesus Christ is given to those who believe. Aren't you thankful that salvation is by faith?

2. The concept of the law as a tutor is not that the law leads a person to Christ, but that the law was a protective disciplinarian until Christ came. In the Old Testament, God used the law to discipline and protect His people from the evil and pagan practices surrounding them. Now, as believers, our rule of life is to walk with the Lord and to serve Him.

### Challenge

1. *"There is neither Jew nor Greek. there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus." (Galatians 3:28)* There are some who would have you believe that this verse justifies removing all male/female role distinctions. However, the context here is not concerning roles, but it has to do with salvation. The salvation of everyone is through Christ alone. Don't make Galatians 3:28 say what it doesn't say.

## **Living Under the Law Compared to the Believer's Position in Christ Galatians 4:1-11**

### **Background**

### **Doctrinal Points**

**1. Under the law, the Jews were like minor children and slaves.**

**2. In Christ, believers are mature sons and heirs.**

### **Practical Application**

**1. Let's not live like slaves when we're already sons.**

### **Questions**

1. Why was the Mosaic Law of the Old Testament given?
2. Refer to Galatians 4:4. "Fullness" is a Greek word. What does it refer to in this context?
3. How did Greek, the universal language at that time, prepare the world for the gospel?
4. In what other ways was the world prepared to hear the gospel?
5. What expectations were being proclaimed from the many synagogues scattered throughout the Roman world?
6. Were these preparations all by chance?
7. Refer to Galatians 4:4. How are both the deity and the humanity of our Lord brought out in this verse?

## Answers

1. To reveal man's sinful condition and to show that no one could attain God's moral standards and requirements on their own. It was also given to serve as a transition until the coming of Christ. The law prepared the way for faith in Christ.
2. It refers to the appointed time, the time that God had in mind when He sent Jesus.
3. The language was readily available for the writing of the New Testament and the communication of the gospel.
4. The Roman Empire had established a peace as well as a road system that permitted missionary travels and church planting by the apostle Paul and the early Christians.
5. Monotheism and Messianic expectations were being proclaimed.
6. Not a chance! God was working behind the scenes to prepare for the appointed time. What a wonderful moment in history when the fullness of the time came!
7. *"God sent forth His Son (His deity), born of a woman under the law (His humanity)."*

## Discuss / Consider

1. Discuss the illustration Paul gives young children receiving an inheritance but not being able to use it until they were older.

2. *"You are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ." (Galatians 4:7)*

From slavery to sonship! And it's only because of what Christ has done for us. Those who were once under the law are redeemed and set free through faith in Christ. Believers are in the family of God, and can now call God, "Father." The Holy Spirit is in our hearts, giving us assurance of our new position in Christ.

## Challenge

1. Why do you live like slaves when you are already sons? The same question applies today. As a believer, you have been freed from bondage in slavery to sin, and now you are in the family of God. Remember, salvation and sanctification are by faith in Christ alone, not by works or by ritualism.



**Paul's Concern for the Galatian Believers to Grow in Christ**  
**Galatians 4:12-20**

**Background**

**Doctrinal Points**

1. False teachers are not concerned about their own integrity.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. False teachers are not concerned about the welfare of others.

**Practical Application**

1. Have you gone into labor lately?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Would the apostle Paul be perplexed about you?

**Questions**

1. Why did the apostle Paul say to the Galatians that he was perplexed about them?
  
  
2. What were the non-Christian Judaizers teaching?
  
  
3. What were the Christian Judaizers teaching?
  
  
4. "Brethren, I urge you to become like me, for I became like you." What did Paul mean by this?
  
  
5. What is meant by the expression, "pluck out your own eyes?"

## Answers

1. Because the Galatian Christians had come under the influence of the false teaching of Judaism, and Paul was concerned that they were turning away from the pure gospel of God's grace in Christ Jesus.
2. They were teaching that the keeping of the law was necessary for salvation.
3. They acknowledged that Jesus was the Messiah and Savior, but they said that sanctification came by keeping the Mosaic Law.
4. Paul said this because he had been under the law before he became a Christian, but then he was free from the law after he became a Christian. He was refuting the works-oriented salvation and works-oriented sanctification as taught by the Judaizers. He was concerned when some of the Galatian believers were under the spell of the Judaizers.
5. It means giving up everything for someone.

## Discuss / Consider

1. Paul asked the Galatian believers, "Have I therefore become your enemy because I tell you the truth?" (Galatians 4:16) The same is true today. When false teachers cannot deny the message, they attack the messenger, with no concern about their own integrity. Have you seen this happen?

2. The false teachers did whatever they could to alienate the Galatian converts from the apostle Paul. How is the same thing happening today?

## Challenge

1. Paul likened his relationship with the Galatians to a mother with a baby. He wanted the Galatian converts to grow in grace, and he was so concerned for them that he went into labor for them, figuratively speaking. Are you as concerned about the new Christians that you know?

2. Paul wrote to the Galatian church, "*I have my doubts about you.*" (Galatians 4:20) Suppose the apostle Paul looked at your life and lifestyle; would he have doubts about your commitment to Christ? Would he see a woeful lack of Bible teaching? Would he see church-going and rule-keeping, but not a lot of love and devotion to Christ?

**Paul Refers to Abraham: Justification is By Faith Alone**  
**Galatians 4:21-31**

**Background**

**Doctrinal Points**

1. Hagar and Ishmael represent salvation by works.

2. Sarah and Isaac represent salvation by faith.

**Practical Application**

1. Cast out the teaching of Judaism.

**Questions**

1. True or False: Did the Arabia of Bible days include the Sinai Peninsula?
2. How did Paul use Mount Sinai as part of his illustration?
3. Why is it that human nature always wants to add human works to the finished work of Christ on the cross?
4. When Paul says in Galatians 4:24 that these things are symbolic, does he mean that they are not historical?
5. What do Hagar and Ishmael represent in Paul's illustrations?
6. What do Sarah and Isaac represent?

### **Answers**

1. True
2. Mount Sinai represented the law. But Justification is not by law, but by faith alone.
3. Because human works appeal to human pride.
4. No. These events really happened, but the apostle was using them as an illustration.
5. They represent salvation by works.
6. They represent salvation by faith.

### **Discuss / Consider**

1. Discuss the illustration given and the differences between the births of Abraham's two sons: Ishmael and Isaac.

3. Sarah, in this illustration, is likened to the New Jerusalem. The New Jerusalem is the heavenly Jerusalem, the home of all the faithful. See Hebrews 12:22-23. All the faithful are in the heavenly Jerusalem – the church, which consists of all believers of the New Testament, and the spirits made perfect, which are the believers of the Old Testament. In the future, this New Jerusalem will descend from its heavenly location to this earth. Refer to Revelation 21:2. If you have come to God through faith in Jesus Christ, and not by works, then you can look forward to living in the New Jerusalem.

### **Challenge**

1. Refer to Galatians 4:29-31. In these verses, Paul continues his illustration from the Genesis account of Hagar and Sarah. Now, 2000 years after the event, Paul is using this as an illustration of casting out any teaching suggesting that salvation or sanctification comes through works. Law and grace cannot be mixed. Beware the subtle ideas of works-oriented salvation or sanctification. Serve the Lord out of a heart of love and cast out the teaching of Judaism

**Standing Fast in Our Christian Liberty**  
**Galatians 5:1-15**

**Background**

**Doctrinal Points**

1. Freedom in Christ cannot include works, because

2. Freedom in Christ is not a license to sin.

**Practical Application**

1. Don't let legalism ruin your church.

**Questions**

1. What is the difference between a believer's position and a believer's practice?

2. What is sanctification?

3. Read Galatians 5:4. Does this verse mean that you can lose your salvation?

4. What was Paul's great concern for the Galatian believers?

5. Does freedom in Christ give the believer a license to sin?

## Answers

1. Position has to do with our legal standing before God, which means we have the righteousness of Christ that comes through faith. See Galatians 4:31. Practice has to do with our lifestyle based on our position. See Galatians 5:1.
2. It is the process of becoming more godly and holy in this life.
3. Absolutely not! The point here is that if anyone turns to the works of the law for salvation, he is departing from the way of grace, and would be substituting his own works for the work of Christ on the cross.
4. He was concerned that they were in danger of falling back and adding the works of the Old Testament law to their practice. This would be to deny their freedom in Christ and be enslaved to the law once again.
5. No. When a believer begins to reason that his sins are forgiven and he's on his way to heaven, and he has freedom in Christ, he may be tempted to use that freedom wrongly. That's a wrong attitude. Because we have freedom in Christ, we have freedom to do works of love as the Lord's servant., not to sin.

## Discuss / Consider

1. If we stand fast in our position of freedom in Christ, we can't add works in practice for salvation or sanctification. Review the six reasons under doctrinal / teaching point #1. Refer to the Scripture for each reason. Then relate each reason to a "work" that you have observed in contemporary churches.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Have you known the grief and bitterness of a church split? Many splits occur because of works-oriented sanctification and differences of opinion as to what constitutes spirituality. How sad! Don't let legalism ruin your church. Do everything you can to mend differences by loving one another.

## Challenge

1. Freedom in Christ is not a license to sin. When a Christian considers his freedom as a license to sin, he does not understand the grace of God. Because we have freedom in Christ, we have freedom to serve the Lord in love. Is there sin in your life you are "overlooking" because of your own notions about "Christian freedom"?

**Walking in the Spirit and Not After the Flesh**  
**Galatians 5:16-26**

**Background**

**Doctrinal Points**

1. **Believers who walk in the Spirit will not commit the deeds of the flesh.**
  
2. **Believers who walk in the Spirit will exhibit the fruit of the Spirit.**

**Practical Application**

1. **Remember, walking is a step-by-step process.**

**Questions**

1. Can you get to heaven just by living a good life and by doing good?
2. What were the false teachers of Paul's day teaching?
3. What is God's grace toward sinners?
4. What is sanctification?
5. Is sanctification obtained by keeping God's law to the best of our ability?
6. Why did God give the law?

## Answers

1. No. If you believe this, then re-read the epistle to the Galatians. Salvation is not by works, or by doing good or by being good, but it is by grace through faith. God provided salvation for sinners by giving His Son Jesus to die on the cross for our sins. By faith, we must receive this gift of salvation by believing in the Lord Jesus Christ as our personal Savior.
2. They were teaching that you had to keep the law and do the works of the law along with your faith in order to obtain salvation. Not so! You cannot mix grace with anything, or it is no longer grace.
3. Grace is God's unmerited favor toward mankind.
4. It is the process of believers becoming more holy and godly in this life.
5. No. This would be works-orientation sanctification. The biblical method of sanctification is found in Galatians 5:16.
6. God gave the law a. to prove that no one could measure up to His standard, and b. to prepare the way for salvation by faith in Christ alone.

## Discuss / Consider

1. To walk in the Spirit means to be occupied more with Christ. The ministry of the Holy Spirit is to make us more Christ-like. It is impossible to be fully occupied with Christ and commit sin at the same time. This is the key to a godly life and sanctification – to be more and more occupied with Christ. How are you doing with this?

2. What are the descriptors of "The fruit of the Spirit"? Do others see Christ in you? Are you exhibiting the fruit of the Spirit in your life?

## Challenge

1. "If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit." (Galatians 5:25) Do you want the fruit of the Spirit to characterize your life? If so, keep on walking in the word, in prayer, in Christian fellowship, in service and in worship.



**Bearing Burdens**  
**Galatians 6:1-5**

**Background**

**Doctrinal Points**

**1. Believers should bear one another's burdens.**

**2. Believers shall bear their own burdens.**

**Practical Application**

**1. Don't think you are something when you are nothing.**

**Questions**

1. Refer to Ephesians 2:8-10. What do these verses tell us about our good works?

2. Does God have a plan for your life? Specifically for you?

3. How can you identify the works that God has designed for you?

4. How should we deal with sin in our lives?

5. What does Galatians 5:26 tell us about treating other believers?

6. The law of Christ contains all the commands of our Lord Jesus found in the New Testament. How can this law be summed up?

## Answers

1. That good works do have a place in the Christian life, not as a means of salvation or as a means of sanctification, but of service.
2. Yes, He does. God has already prepared areas of service where you can serve Him with good works.
3. Get involved in the needs around you, and you will find the area of service that God has chosen for you. The rest of the body of Christ will let you know where you fit in and where you don't fit in.
4. Walk in the Spirit. The more we are in fellowship with the Lord, the less we will be involved in sin.
5. It tells us how we should not treat one another, but we might treat them with these negative attitudes if we are not walking in the Spirit.
6. See Galatians 5:14.

## Discuss / Consider

1. "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." (Galatians 6:2) The word "burden" in this verse can refer to failures, temptations, testings, trials, sorrows or suffering, as well as work loads. Question: What do you do if you see a fellow believer struggling under one of these heavy burdens?
  
2. In the restoration process, there must be discipline and repentance, but those who are spiritual should aim to restore that person with gentleness. What do you do when a brother or sister fails because of sin? Do you go to them and try to restore them? Do you bear one another's burdens?
  
3. "One day we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ and have our lives examined as to how we carried our load of responsibilities (2 Corinthians 5:10). Examine your service now in light of the judgment seat of Christ, but not by comparing yourself to others.

## Challenge

1. "If anyone thinks himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself." (Galatians 6:2-3). Do you think more of yourself than you really are?

**Relationships with Fellow Believers**  
**Galatians 6:6-10**

**Background**

**Doctrinal Points**

- 1. Believers who sow to the flesh will reap corruption.**
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 2. Believers who sow to the Spirit will reap eternal life.**

**Practical Application**

- 1. Don't forget to do good to unbelievers.**

**Questions**

1. List some of the believer's responsibilities toward fellow believers as given in Galatians 6:1-6.
  
  
2. *"Let him who is taught the word share in all good things with him who teaches."* (Gal. 6:6). What is this verse telling us?
  
  
3. Is Galatians 6:7-8 addressed to believers or unbelievers?
  
  
4. Read 1 Timothy 5:17. Does double honor mean double the amount of respect?
  
  
5. Does eternal life begin when you die?

## Answers

1. We are to bear one another's burdens by doing what we can to help. We are to help fellow believers who have sinned to come back to the Lord and to the fellowship of His people.
2. Those who are taught should share in love to help meet the needs of the teachers.
3. In context here, these verses are addressed to believers.
4. It means respect and remuneration. See also 1 Timothy 5:18.
5. Eternal life begins when you are saved. See John 3:36.

## Discuss / Consider

1. *"He who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption..."* (Galatians 6:8). See also Job 4:8 and Hosea 8:7. Consider how these verses relate to each other and how they relate to you. The exhortation is to be a giving and sharing Christian, not one who thinks only of himself and his own comfort and pleasure. How do you rate your own comfort and pleasure as compared to your giving and sharing?

2. *"He who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life."* (Galatians 6:8) Sowing to the Spirit means to give and to share for the furtherance of the Lord's work by meeting the needs of the Lord's servants. Are you enjoying your present eternal life, or are you just living your life like the average non-Christian? How concerned are you for the Lord's servants? Has the Lord touched your heart to give sacrificially?

## Challenge

1. *"Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all..."* (Galatians 6:10). As believers, we are to meet the needs of the Lord's servants, and the needs of believers and unbelievers around us. It has been said that we should do all the good we can in all the ways we can to all the people we can for as long as we can. Can this be said of you?

**Paul's Conclusion and His Benediction**  
**Galatians 6:11-18**

**Background**

**Doctrinal Points**

**1. The cross means death to the flesh.**

**2. The cross means death to the world.**

**Practical Application**

**1. What are we boasting about?**

**2. Do we bear the brand marks of Jesus?**

**Questions**

1. What is contained in the conclusion of Paul's letter to the Galatians?

2. What were the Judaizers wrongly teaching?

3. What was the big issue discussed in the first church council in Jerusalem?

4. What is necessary for salvation?

5. What is meant by sanctification?

6. How does sanctification come about?

7. List the four faults of the Judaizers that Paul pointed out to the Galatian believers.

### **Answers**

1. Both a summary of the letter and a final statement refuting the false teaching of the Judaizers.
2. That circumcision and keeping the law were necessary for salvation.
3. This Galatian heresy, that the Judaizers were wrongly teaching that circumcision and keeping the law were necessary for salvation.
4. Justification is by faith in Christ alone.
5. It is the process of becoming more holy in the Christian life.
6. By walking in the Spirit and not after the flesh.
7.
  - a. They were seeking the favor of men and not God.
  - b. They were demanding circumcision because they were afraid of persecution.
  - c. They did not practice what they preached.
  - d. They weren't really interested in the Galatians at all, but rather in boasting about their number of circumcised converts.

### **Discuss / Consider**

1. What does Paul mean that he has been crucified to the world? Are you practicing your position before God in Christ?

2. There's coming a day when there will be no more sin and no more world system. Do you recognize this truth? How does it impact your life?

### **Challenge**

1. The apostle Paul said he did not want to boast about anything other than the cross of Christ. If you are boasting about anything other than what Christ has done for you, try examining your priorities. What do you boast about?

2. Paul's body was literally scarred because of physical persecution. There are Christians today who literally carry the brand marks of Jesus because of persecution. Have you ever been persecuted for standing for your faith? Do you bear the brand marks of Jesus?