

## Galatians 6

### V.1

- This is a great recipe for dealing with people who have gotten caught up in sin
  - we need to care enough about each other to know when we get into trouble
  - in today's world, people have become experts at putting on a façade
  - so much of our communication is done electronically
  - even a big part of our social lives are online now
  - if you don't talk to people face to face, you won't really know if they are struggling or not
- if you do find a brother who has fallen into sin, it is your obligation to try to restore them
  - what the world expects today is for everyone to turn a blind eye to sin or to tell you that everything is ok.
    - we have become so politically correct that we are more afraid of offending someone than we are of watching them go to hell for eternity
    - the world needs people who are willing to step on someone's feelings in to help them in the long run
- but be prepared to see what someone is made of when you do this

- **Pro 9:8** Do not reprove a scoffer, or he will hate you, Reprove a wise man and he will love you.
- Pro 9:9** Give *instruction* to a wise man and he will be still wiser, Teach a righteous man and he will increase *his* learning.
  - if he is wise, he will listen to you and appreciate it
  - if he is a fool, he will respond in anger
- but the way you approach someone is critical
  - if you are condescending or abusive, you won't accomplish anything
  - you are to be gentle and humble knowing that your flesh has the same weaknesses that can be tempted to fall just like the person you are trying to restore

### V.2

- real love and real friendship means that we are there for each other when times get tough
  - and Paul is specifically talking to Christians now
  - I believe that us believers fall way short in this area
  - it seems that we want to go to church on Sunday, look at everyone's plastic smiles and try to leave without getting personally involved in anyone's life
    - because if someone were to tell us what they were really struggling with, that would require us to get involved
      - and getting involved gets us out of our comfort zone
      - it will usually cost us time, money, or emotions bear someone's burdens
      - it seems to be easier to just pretend everything is ok
- When he says that we fulfill the Law of Christ by doing this, some people think Paul is referring to the Law of Moses or the 10 commandments
  - the Law of Christ can be seen in the previous chapter:
    - Gal 5:14** For the whole Law is fulfilled in one word, in the *statement*, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF."
    - I know people who claim to be very spiritual and will take verses like this out of context to say that we have to try to keep the Law
    - When Jesus refers to keeping the Law, He is referring to His law:

**Joh 13:34** "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another.

-if we have learned anything from Paul, it's that we are not to try to live by the Law

### V.3

-in today's society, we are measured by our accomplishments

-how much we earn, how much we have in the bank, what all we own, how big our house is, how expensive our car is

-this is what the world uses to measure success and usually determines how popular we are with others

-Pride may sound like a small problem or a minor sin but it is one of the most offensive sins in the eyes of God

**Pro 16:5** Everyone who is proud in heart is an abomination to the LORD; Assuredly, he will not be unpunished.

-Pride is the original sin

**Isa 14:12** "How you have fallen from heaven, O star of the morning, son of the dawn! You have been cut down to the earth, You who have weakened the nations!

**Isa 14:13** "But you said in your heart, 'I will ascend to heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars of God, And I will sit on the mount of assembly In the recesses of the north.

**Isa 14:14** 'I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.'

**Isa 14:15** "Nevertheless you will be thrust down to Sheol, To the recesses of the pit.

### V.4-5

-I think it's ok to take pride in good things you have done

-not bragging about them to others, but feeling good within yourself knowing you have done something for the Lord

**2Co 10:17** But HE WHO BOASTS IS TO BOAST IN THE LORD

-the problem comes when people boast to others about the good deeds they have done

-usually this is only done to imply "I did something good and you didn't....I'm better than you"

-no matter how good of a deed you do for God, if that is your attitude then your good deed carries no reward in heaven

**Mat 6:2** "So when you give to the poor, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be honored by men. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full.

### V.6

-people have an unrealistic view of people who devote their life to serving the Lord

-the assumption is that if they are genuinely serving God, then everything they do should be free

-I heard someone say once that if these Christian musicians were really Christians, they wouldn't charge for their cd's...they would just give them away

-the fact is that we live in a world where a certain amount of money is required to be able to function in society

-There is a difference between a making a living and taking advantage of the people

-I think this is why many people feel uneasy about supporting Christian ministries

-so many "ministries" have completely taken advantage of the generosity of believers

-Many of these ministries have annual incomes of over \$100 million and the leaders live extravagant lifestyles that don't line up the teachings of Christ

-many of these same people have also been caught in moral failure such as financial dishonesty, infidelity, homosexuality and deceit

**Mar 4:18** "And others are the ones on whom seed was sown among the thorns; these are the ones who have heard the word,

**Mar 4:19** but the worries of the world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.

-these people will be accountable to God for their lifestyles

-Paul is talking about supporting those who teach us the Word

-**1Co 9:7** Who at any time serves as a soldier at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard and does not eat the fruit of it? Or who tends a flock and does not use the milk of the flock?

**1Co 9:8** I am not speaking these things according to human judgment, am I? Or does not the Law also say these things?

**1Co 9:9** For it is written in the Law of Moses, "YOU SHALL NOT MUZZLE THE OX WHILE HE IS THRESHING." God is not concerned about oxen, is He?

**1Co 9:10** Or is He speaking altogether for our sake? Yes, for our sake it was written, because the plowman ought to plow in hope, and the thresher *to thresh* in hope of sharing *the crops*.

**1Co 9:11** If we sowed spiritual things in you, is it too much if we reap material things from you?

-**1Co 9:14** So also the Lord directed those who proclaim the gospel to get their living from the gospel.