

February 15, 2015

“The Liberator - A Walk in Grace”

“So Christ has truly set us free. Now make sure that you stay free...” Galatians 5:1a NLT

Part 7

“Keep in Step!”

Galatians 5:16 – 6:18

“Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.” Galatians 5:25

A. Grace equips us to walk by the Spirit...

“So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won’t be doing what your sinful nature craves.” vs 5:16

1. There is a battle for your spirit that the enemy would always like to keep going!

“The sinful nature wants to do evil, which is just the opposite of what the Spirit wants. And the Spirit gives us desires that are the opposite of what the sinful nature desires. These two forces are constantly fighting each other, so you are not free to carry out your good intentions.” vs 5:17

2. There are the desires of the sinful nature.

“When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures, idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division, envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and others sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God.” vs 5:10-21

3. There are evidences of the fruit of the Spirit.

“But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!” vs 5:22-23

4. Walking by the Spirit is a conscious choice in movement, in direction, and in pace!

“So I say, walk by the Spirit...”

B. Grace equips us to live by the Spirit by...

1. Following the Spirit’s leading in every part of our lives.

“Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit’s leading in every part of our lives.” vs 5:25

2. Restoring others gently.

“...if another believer is overcome by some sin, you who are godly should gently and humbly help that person back onto the right path. And be careful not to fall into the same temptation yourself.” vs 6:1

3. Sharing each other’s burdens.

“Share each other’s burdens, and in this way obey the law of Christ. If you think you are too important to help someone, you are only fooling yourself. You are not that important.” vs 6:2-3

4. Refusing to compare yourself with others.

“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. For we are each responsible for our own conduct.” vs 6:4-5

C. Grace equips us to keep in step with the Spirit, remembering the principle of sowing and harvesting...

1. You will always harvest what you plant!

“Don’t be misled—you cannot mock the justice of God. You will always harvest what you plant.” vs 6:7

2. Sowing seeds characteristic of your sinful nature will reap that harvest.

“Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful nature will harvest decay and death from that sinful nature.” vs 6:8a

3. Sowing seeds characteristic of the fruit of the Spirit will reap that harvest!

“But those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit.” vs 6:8b

4. Sowing can get wearisome, but don’t give up!

“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. Therefore, whenever we have the opportunity, we should do good to everyone—especially to those in the family of faith.” vs 6:9-10

D. “...may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit” ...So...

1. Boast only in what Christ can do!

“As for me, may I never boast about anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.” vs 6:14a

2. Remember you are crucified with Christ and let go of the world’s expectations!

“...Because of that cross, my interest in this world has been crucified, and the world’s interest in me has also died.” vs 6:14b

3. You are a new creation by His grace you are transformed!

“...What counts is whether we have been transformed into a new creation.” vs 6:15b

4. Live in peace and receive His mercy, we “are the new people of God!”

“May God’s peace and mercy be upon all who live by this principle; they are the new people of God.” vs 6:16