

Galatians

Lesson 5: Galatians 5

Imagine if a mule was unhitched from a yoke after pulling a plow, and then that mule wanted to go back under that yoke on its own after being set free. That would be ridiculous! When people think they can be saved by good works, they put themselves under the yoke (or bondage) of the Law. However, when Christians are saved by grace through faith alone, they are set free from bondage to the Law to live a life of freedom in Christ. In chapter 5, Paul talks about living the Christian life in freedom from the Law and living under the power of the Holy Spirit. This free life in Christ involves bearing spiritual fruit of righteousness and holiness. Let's dive and see what Paul has to say about living a life of freedom in Christ.

➤ **Read Galatians 5:1–6**

1. In verse 1, what is the “yoke of slavery” that Paul is referring to? (hint: see v. 3)
2. In verses 2–3, what is the result of someone who “receives circumcision” as a means to be saved?
3. In verse 4, what are two results of someone who is “seeking to be justified by law”?
4. Was the person who is “severed from Christ” ever saved? How do you know?
5. In verse 5, how does someone receive “the hope of righteousness”?
6. In verse 6, what is the internal motivation for those who are “in Christ Jesus”?

Application: What areas of your life need to be motivated by “faith working through love”?

➤ **Read Galatians 5:7–15**

7. In verse 7, what is the result of true saving faith that the Galatians were not doing?

Application: If Paul wrote you a letter, would he say you were “running well”? What causes believers to stumble?

8. In verse 8, what is the “persuasion” Paul is talking about?

9. According to verse 9, what happens when sin and false teaching come into the church?

10. In verse 10, what will happen to the false teacher who teaches salvation by works?

11. In verse 11, what was the result of Paul for preaching the true gospel?

Application: Have you ever had an encounter where the gospel was a “stumbling block”? Explain. What are temptations that people have so as not to make the gospel a stumbling block to unbelievers?

12. In verse 13, how are Christians supposed to use their “freedom”?

13. In verse 15, what is the result when believers do not serve one another out of love?

➤ **Read Galatians 5:16–26**

14. In verse 16, what is commanded of every Christian? What is the result of obedience to this command?

15. In verse 17, the flesh is the mind, will and emotions of a person. How does “the flesh” relate to “the Spirit”?

Application: There is a phrase in Christendom that says, “Let go and let God.” Is this phrase biblical, why or why not?

16. In verse 18, what are the results of those who are “led by the Spirit”?

17. In verses 19–21, what is the result of those who “practice” the sins listed?

18. In verse 22–23, what is the fruit of the Spirit?

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| 1. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 5. _____ | |

19. At the end of verse 23, Paul says, “against such thing there is no law.” What does he mean by that?

20. How does Paul describe believers in verse 24?

21. In verse 25, what is the difference between “live” and “walk”?

22. In verse 26, what is the result of pride in the body of Christ?

Application: In what areas of your life do you tend to battle “the flesh” most often?

Application: We live in a world of instantaneous gratification and many people are searching for the next “spiritual” experience. Paul says the Christian life is both a war and a walk. What have you learned from this chapter about living the Christian life that you need to apply in your life?

Application: What one verse impacted you the most in this study? Explain.