

## Reflection Questions: Galatians 6:14

For the message, "What Does It Mean To Boast In The Cross?" given by Pastor John Ferguson at Mercy Hill Church in Bryan/College Station, Texas, on September 11, 2022

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These discussion questions are designed primarily to help you apply the message from the Scriptures by helping you think through application to your personal life, your church life, and your city's life.

You can use these by yourself for reflection, or with your family or small group for discussion.

To review the sermon, go to [MercyHillBCS.org/resources/messages](http://MercyHillBCS.org/resources/messages).

### INTRODUCTION

**Pray.** Take a moment to pray asking God to guide you in reflecting upon the Scripture text.

**Scripture Text:** Galatians 6:14

**"Far be it from me to boast in anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ...."**

Also, let's reflect on these verses from the Apostle Paul's own life:

- **1 Corinthians 15:9** (c. **AD 54**): "For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God."
- **Ephesians 3:8** (c. **AD 62**): "Although I am the least of all the Lord's people, this grace was given to me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ...."
- **1 Timothy 1:15** (c. **AD 64**): "Here is a trust worthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinner—of whom I am the worst."

**A summary of the message:** Following Jesus over time should translate into greater and greater levels of appreciation for, rejoicing in, and boasting in the Cross. The message of the Cross is Good News for unbelievers AND believers too!

### **Bottom Line:**

- "Spiritual growth is not about moving on from where we began—the gospel. It's about growing deeper in the gospel. Or rather, getting the gospel deeper into us" (Brian Hedges).

### QUESTIONS

#### **1. Let's think about how this text applies to our lives as individuals.**

- Is the idea of *boasting in the Cross* something new to you? What kind of questions does it bring to your mind?
- What do you make of Paul's "downward progression" we see in the above bullet point verses that enabled him to boast about and be obsessed with the Cross?
- How does boasting in the Cross free us to be be "brutally honest with ourselves and with God," as the writer Jerry Bridges once said?

**2. Let's think about how this text applies to us as a community of Jesus' followers.**

- What would it look like for a community of faith to boast in / glory in / rejoice in the Cross? What would be the vibe of that community?
- What is the cost if we as a community of faith seeking to follow Jesus are not transformed by this text, that is, if we don't boast in the Cross? What is lost? What then becomes the vibe of the community of faith?

**3. Let's think about how this text applies to our city.**

- How does this text serve as Good News for those outside the faith?
- How would people who are not-yet-Christians experience Christians who, like Paul, boasted in nothing but the Cross? Do you think they would be intrigued or confused? Or to put it another way, how might this be attractive to a person who is interested in Christianity?

CONCLUSION QUESTION

What is the one thing you want to take away from this study to remember or to make a change in your life?

PRAYER

What are some ways you can turn what you are learning into prayer? List them as bullet points....

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