



The Shared Life and Spiritual Reformation of God's People

Date: 11/19/2017

### **Pray Together**

Use the first few minutes of your time together to lead your group in a focused prayer time.

- Praise: Spend time praising God for who He is.
- Repent: Take a few moments to silently confess any sin that is lingering in your heart.
- Ask: Verbalize your needs and the needs of others to God.
- Yield: Surrender your will to God.

### **Read Together**

In the closing paragraphs of Paul's letter to the Galatians, we see three common themes: bearing, caring, and sharing. Paul exhorts the believers in Galatia to bear the burdens of others rather than judge from a stance of legalism and self-righteousness. He encourages them to give generously and to care for others as they sow from a heart of love, through the Spirit. Lastly, he gives a final warning to believers, challenging them to share in the Lord's sufferings as he did, bearing the marks of Jesus Christ and boasting only in the Cross of Christ.

How did believers then and now accomplish these things? Only by grace, working through the Spirit of God is this type of spiritual reformation accomplished. In our flesh we will devour, deceive, and deflect the things of the Spirit. But as we live lives of liberty rather than legalism, as we seek a way of life in the Spirit rather than yielding to the flesh, we grow up in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, bringing Him the glory He alone deserves.

### **Discuss Together**

Use these questions to engage in an informative and impactful discussion.

- Read Galatians 6:1-5. Discuss what it means to restore a person in a spirit of gentleness and to bear one another's burdens to fulfill the law of Christ.
- Why is bearing another's burdens difficult for a legalist? What are some of the actions, attitudes, and responses of a person who has difficulty with this?
- Refer back to Galatians 5:13-15, 22-25. What do these verses tell us about restoring, loving, and serving?
- Read Mark 2:13-17. What was Jesus' response to the Pharisees when they judged Him for ministering to tax collectors and sinners? What is your response when you see a brother or sister in Christ in need of restoration?
- Read Galatians 6:6-10. The precept of sharing our blessings is modeled throughout the Bible. Why is it important for the believer to share his or her possessions?
- Read Matthew 6:19-21 and Acts 2:41-47. What do these passages say about generosity?
- Discuss the precept of sowing and reaping? What does it mean to sow and reap to the flesh? What does it mean to sow and reap to the Spirit? What will you do this week to sow to the Spirit?
- Read Romans 12:18-21. When believers are faced with evil, how and what are we to sow according to this passage?
- What does Galatians 6:9 remind us of regarding our faithful service? In what area of your life are you growing weary in service? What is the best way to respond to your weariness?



- Read Galatians 6:11-18. What does it mean to boast in the Cross? (See also Philippians 3:7-11)
- What have you learned about grace in this study of Galatians? How will you live by grace through the Spirit this week?

## How I must obey Christ...

- Examine yourself. As a result of this study, identify a specific area in which you need to obey Christ this week.
- How do you specifically need to obey Christ in this area this week?
- How can Jesus redeem this area? How has He proven that in Scripture?
- Who will keep you accountable to this commitment this week?

# **Pray Together**

Ask God specifically how you can bear, care, and share with someone in need this week.