

Sermon Study Guide



#9: The Choices We Make

Law & Liberty: Experiencing Freedom in Christ

November 22, 2020 | Dr. Stephen G. Tan

In this series we will study the book of Galatians to see that the one true Gospel—the Gospel of Jesus Christ—provides a balance between rules and law and freedom and grace.

Reflect

What's the most difficult choice you ever had to make for your life? How did it turn out?

Read and Discuss

Scripture

Galatians 6:1-18

Discussion Questions

In the concluding chapter of Galatians, Paul talks about four choices which have deep and lasting significance to your life.

1. **The Choice to Show Grace to Those Who Have Sinned (v.1).** It is so easy to automatically condemn and judge someone who has fallen into sin. But what did Paul say about extending help to a brother or sister in the Lord who has been overtaken by sin? Why should we hold back in our judgment? Would you be willing to reach out to a fellow Christian who has sinned and needed help? How would you extend grace to that person?
2. **The Choice to Help Others Spiritually (v. 2-5).** Paul challenged the Galatian Christians to bear one another's spiritual burdens. What specific things can you do to help someone with spiritual burdens? Discuss how you can identify someone who is falling into sin? How would you call out that person's attention to prevent him from falling? How does the attitude of "holier than thou" keep you from bearing other's spiritual burden? How are you responsible for your own burdens? How is it different from bearing the burdens of others?

3. **The Choice to Build Up My Heavenly Wealth (v. 6-10).** Paul told the Galatian Christians that as the church body, they should support financially those who were ministering to them as teachers or pastors. What principle was Paul teaching the church about this matter? What does it mean "for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap?" Why is it important to wait "in due time" rather than taking shortcuts in building up your heavenly wealth? What good should you sow that has eternal values?
4. **The Choice to Find My Glory in the Cross of Christ (v. 11-16).** While the Judaizers boasted of themselves and their ability to save themselves by following rules and regulations, Paul says that his boast was the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. Why is the cross an offense to the world? How did Paul and the Judaizers view the cross of Christ differently? Why is it that as a new creation, your old nature doesn't appeal to you anymore?

Respond

In Walk: The Bible teaches us that the choices we make as believers is not a matter of preference, nor it is optional; it is a matter of right or wrong. Are you making the right choices every day of your life? Are you intentionally choosing to show grace to those who have sinned, help others spiritually, build up heavenly wealth, and find glory in the cross of Christ? How do you show that you belong to Christ and that your choices are aligned to who you are in relation to Him?

In Prayer: Heavenly Father, I know that the world has different standards and values compared to what I have as Your child. May who I am in You guide me in my choices in life. May my life be dictated by Your Word and values, which is what really matters. Thank You that I am saved eternally through faith alone in Christ alone. Amen