

**Free: The Message of Galatians Then & Now**  
**Lesson Ten – Stay Free**  
**Galatians 6**

**I. You Who Are Spiritual (Galatians 6:1-5)**

Look back at the preceding chapter – Galatians 5:19-26

The fruit of the Spirit – for the fruit to be sweet it must be mature or ripe. Fruit can only be produced by the tree, not the branches. The tree with its root system is our life source. We are to simply “abide” that He might produce His character in our lives.

John 15:4-8

- A. Who is spiritual?  
1 Corinthians 2 & 3

Paul calls us to personal accountability and mutual responsibility.

- B. Bear one another’s burdens.
- C. Examine yourself.  
We compare ourselves to Jesus, not other people.

**II. We Reap What We Sow (Galatians 6:6-10)**

“The Greek verb *myktērizein* is found nowhere else in the New Testament, although it is well attested in the Septuagint. It means literally to “turn up the nose in mockery or contempt” (*The New American Commentary: Galatians*, Timothy George, Logos).

God will not be mocked – there will be a payday someday.

- A. Sow to the Spirit.  
“If believers’ eyes are turned to the power of the Resurrection, in their hearts the cross of Christ will at last triumph over the devil, flesh, sin, and wicked men” (John Calvin in *The New American Commentary: Galatians*, Timothy George, Logos).
- B. Don’t lose heart. – persevere
- C. Do good to all.

**III. Paul’s Closing Remarks (Galatians 6:11-18)**

#### IV. Overview

**Love** – God is love, He draws us by His love  
John 3:16

**Grace** – What God requires, God provides

**Peace** – Shalom, well-being, flourishing

**Free** – “Jesus answered them, ‘Truly, truly, I say to you everyone who commits sin is the slave of sin. The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son does remain forever. So if the Son makes you free you will be free indeed’” (John 8:34-36).

Think back to the Garden. The tree of the knowledge of good and evil instituted the legalistic system of the flesh. The Law was our tutor. It is the Tree of Life that gives life, bears fruit and brings healing (Revelation 22).

Jesus is the Tree of Life – we are in Him and His living water is to flow forth from our inner man – the beauty of His character – the fruit of His Spirit flowing forth, unquenched by sin.

When we turn in, we quench the flow of the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Truth Who was given to us by the Lord. When we look up and out, His Spirit is free to flow – with my head lifted up, and my eyes fixed on Jesus, I spread my arms like my Savior and welcome the poor, the down-trodden, the children, the foreigner, with the love of Jesus. When I am broken and poured out, just as my Savior was, He takes over and does in and through me what only He can do.

“And the Lord will continually guide you,  
And satisfy your desire in scorched places,  
And give strength to your bones;  
And you will be like a watered garden,  
And like a spring of water whose waters do not fail” (Isaiah 58:11).

Jesus said, “He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, ‘From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.’ But this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive” (John 7:38-39).

“Then he showed me a river of the water of life, clear as crystal, coming from the throne of God and of the Lamb, in the middle of its street. On either side of the river was the tree of life, bearing twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations” (Revelation 22:1-2).

The river of God is full of water. Psalm 65:9 (RV)

Recently I was sent a picture of a jug into which water was being poured. The idea was that love, or whatever we need, is poured into us like that. I don't think of it so at all. I think of the love of God as a great river, pouring through us as the waters pour through our ravine in flood time. Nothing can keep this love from pouring through us, except of course our own blocking of the river.

Do you sometimes feel that you have got to the end of your love for someone who refuses and repulses you? Such a thought is folly, for one cannot come to the end of what one has not got. We have no store of love at all. We are not jugs, we are riverbeds.

If there be hindrance, sweep it all away;  
O Love Eternal, pour through me I pray.

(Carmichael, Amy. *Whispers of His Power* (p. 233). CLC Publications. Kindle Edition.)