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“Paul’s comments in these two verses are not contradictory. They fit together hand in glove. They remind us to get things into proper order once again.”

GALATIANS 6:2 & 6:5

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GALATIANS 6:1-10

The mind of Christ is so often diametrically opposed to ours. And Paul lines up unflinchingly on Christ’s side. It’s this business of the way we treat each other. Jesus thinks we ought to go easy on folks, put the best construction on things, and see things from the other fellow’s point of view. At the same time, He is convinced we should quit once and for all our habit of forever giving ourselves the benefit of the doubt. That flies full in the teeth of the way we look at things.

We have re-written the clear directives of Scripture and have practiced our contrary ideas so long that we go into full shock when we are brought face-to-face with some of the things God originally inspired to be set down. For an example, we believe we “should judge one another with a pure heart fervently,” and we spend interminable hours getting the job done. We do a critique on absolutely anyone and everyone, and if someone, the pastor maybe, suggests it isn’t right to defame our brother, we protest, “but it’s true,” as if that had anything to do with it. You can guess at this, but for the sake of impact, look it up. What does God say? 1 Peter 1:22: “Love one another earnestly from a pure heart.” Once more, we act as if the Bible says, “Against you, you only, have I sinned,” but we are forever confessing other people’s faults. “For each one will have to bear his own load” Paul promises (6:5). Confession isn’t good for anything unless it is your own. Then it’s good, very good, for the soul.

PERSONAL APPLICATION – GALATIANS 6:11-18

My heart, my life, my all are Yours, dearest Lord Jesus, for You have bought me with a price, enlightened me with Your Word and now You motivate and power my every deed. To You be praise and honor forever. Amen.

Galatians 6:11-18

1. Why do you think Paul mentions writing “with my own hand” in the following reference? Galatians 6:11 and 1 Corinthians 16:21.

2. Galatians 6:12-13 – The Judaizers’ fear
Paul impugns the Judaizers’ motives. What, according to Paul, were they trying to accomplish? What were they trying to avoid?

What, according to Paul, did the Judaizers think would bring them glory?

3. Galatians 6:14 – Paul’s glory
What is Paul’s source of glory?

Why?

4. What do the following references tell us regarding the importance of circumcision and what is of primary importance? (6:15; Romans 2:29; 1 Corinthians 7:19; Ephesians 4:24; Colossians 3:9-11).

5. In verse 16, to what do you think Paul refers with the phrase “this rule”?

6. Share with your group any thoughts that come to mind when Paul says: “I bear on my body the marks of Jesus.”

What kind of marks do you bear?

- 7. Refer to the *OUTLINE WORKSHEET* you received in Lesson 1. You have already noted that chapter 5 and 6 comprise the third section of Paul's letter and that this section is entitled the practical section.

In the small rectangles below the words practical section write chapter 5 and chapter 6.

The point Paul makes in chapter 5 is that our Christian liberty is not a license to sin. Freedom (not license) serves as a title for chapter 5. In the larger rectangle under the word chapter 5 which you have inserted, write Freedom (not license). This is the freedom, not license chapter. Chapter 6 can be summarized simply as the result chapter. In the rectangle under the words chapter 6 write Results.

In the large section under these chapter titles and above the key verse write the summary of section 3: Christians are independent of law; dependent on Holy Spirit to produce love.

- 8. Try your hand at a three sentence summary of Paul's epistle to the Galatians.
