

# DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

*Our Mission: Reaching out to leaders who can change the world.*

**Jesus + \_\_\_\_\_ = Salvation?**

July 2012

## **Lesson #14 - Galatians – Sowing Good or Evil?**

### **INTRODUCTION**

What has been your experience with gardening and plants?

### **OBSERVATION/INTERPRETATION**

Read Gal 6:1-10

*Note: A variety of ancient sources, including Greek and Jewish wisdom traditions and the Dead Sea Scrolls, stressed wise reproof for the other person's good, and often stressed examining oneself before correcting others. Judaism (unlike Greek culture) considered humility one of the greatest virtues, even for the most noble. "'Caught' in verse 1 may mean the man does not commit the sin with premeditation but rather fails to be on his guard or perhaps flirts with a temptation he thinks he can withstand. Or he simply tries to live his life in his own power and fails, producing a deed of the flesh instead of the fruit of the Spirit."*<sup>1</sup>

1. What is the best approach to helping a Christian brother or sister caught in sin? V 1
  2. How does one become "spiritual?" V 1 Matt 7:5
  3. What warning about sin do strong Christians need to heed? V 1
  4. How should Christians support each other? V 2 ; Rom 15:1; 1 Ths 5:14
- Note: V. 2 "burden" refers to a crushing weight put on a domestic pack animal. Matt 23:4 "Load" in verse 5 refers to the necessary equipment in a soldier's backpack. 2 Cor 8:13-14; Matt 11:30*
5. What is the law of Christ? V 2 James 2:8
  6. What is the antidote to self-deception? Vv 3-4 Rom 12:3; 1 Cor 11:28; 2 Cor 13:5
  7. How can we make sure that our view of ourselves is in line with God's view? 2 Cor 10:12
  8. How is carrying one's own load different from bearing the burdens of others? V 5
  9. Even though we are ultimately responsible to God for our actions (2 Cor 5:10), what is the role of those in places of authority over us? V 5
  10. What are some of the ways that we are tempted to sow (feed) our fleshly nature? V 8 What is the result of pleasing that nature? V 8 Job 4:8; Rom 6:23
  11. How can we sow an eternal crop? V 8 Jas 3:18
  12. Paul acknowledges that it can be discouraging to do good and not see tangible results. When should we expect to see the result of our hard work? V 9 Isa 55:8-9
  13. What responsibility do believers have toward each other? V 10 1 Ti 5:8

### **APPLICATION**

- What kind of seeds are you sowing? Eternal or fleshly? Good or evil? How can you plant to please God?
- Who's burden do you need to help carry?

*As there are two sorts of sowing, one to the flesh, and the other to the Spirit, so will the reckoning be hereafter. Those who live a carnal, sensual life must expect no other fruit from such a course than misery and ruin. But those who, under the guidance and influences of the Holy Spirit, live a life of faith in Christ, and abound in Christian graces, shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.*

*Mathew Henry's Commentary*

<sup>1</sup> MacArthur, J. (1996). *Galatians* (177). Chicago: Moody Press.