

Sermon Series: Galatians: A Life Set Free Galatians 6 Speaker: Dave Lee Date: March 3, 2024



# **GROUP GUIDE**

#### Connect (25 min)

**Ice Breaker:** What is one amazing thing that has happened to you in your life that you can't boast about? (someone gave you an amazing gift, things lined up in an amazing way beyond your control, an ability you have that you just happened to be born with, etc.)

# Message Discussion (35 min)

- 1. James talks about every good and perfect gift coming from God (1:17). What can cause us to become forgetful or ungrateful for the gifts God gives? What are things that can make us take his greatest gift, Jesus and his cross, for granted?
- 2. In Galatians 6:14, Paul says this line "May I never boast, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ." Have you ever been tempted to highlight your own achievements (even Christian ones like your devotional life, or service, or giving) to the people around you? What do you think drives our desire to boast and receive praise from people?
- 3. Dave shared about the person he was talking to that kept insisting "all God wants is for you to do your best." What are your first impressions of that statement? Why might it sound good, but actually be off base?
- 4. CS Lewis wrote in *Mere Christianity,* "No man knows how bad he is till he has tried very hard to be good." Have you ever "tried very hard to be good" in life? What was that experience like?
- 5. Both the good person and the bad person can only boast in the cross. How do you boast in the cross when you have been following God and can see that he is using you to do good works? How do you boast in the cross when you have failed?
- 6. Dave laid out a simple path of trusting Jesus: 1. Confess your sin 2. Embrace forgiveness. 3. Accept the reality that you're free 4. Live boasting in only the cross. Which step along that journey might you struggle with most?

7. What are practices you could put in place to help you only boast in the cross in your life?

# Application & Prayer (20 min)

**Praying Together:** Pray for each other that you would each experience a deeper gratitude for the cross in the coming weeks as we approach Easter.



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## Connect (25 min)

**Ice Breaker:** What is one amazing thing that has happened to you in your life that you can't boast about? (someone gave you an amazing gift, things lined up in an amazing way beyond your control, an ability you have that you just happened to be born with, etc.)

**Pray:** "Lord Jesus, thank you for the cross. You love us here so deeply. Open the eyes of our hearts, our minds, our entire beings to see and experience this love afresh as we fellowship together. Guide us by your Holy Spirit. In Jesus' name, amen."

# Message Discussion (35 min)

- James talks about every good and perfect gift coming from God (1:17). What can cause us to become forgetful or ungrateful for the gifts God gives? What are things that can make us take his greatest gift, Jesus and his cross, for granted? Consider things like busyness, lack of reflection on it, attitudes like entitlement, etc.
- 2. In Galatians 6:14, Paul says this line "May I never boast, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ." Have you ever been tempted to highlight your own achievements (even Christian ones like your devotional life, or service, or giving) to the people around you? What do you think drives our desire to boast and receive praise from people? Consider things like insecurity, need for approval, a desire to feel accomplished, narcissism, etc.
- 3. Dave shared about the person he was talking to that kept insisting "all God wants is for you to do your best." What are your first impressions of that statement? Why might it sound good, but actually be off base? It can be a deceiving statement because in a sense, God does want us to "do our best" as in, steward the gifts he has given us well, but that doesn't make him love us any more or less. Navigate that tension together.
- 4. CS Lewis wrote in *Mere Christianity,* "No man knows how bad he is till he has tried very hard to be good." Have you ever "tried very hard to be good" in life? What was that experience like?

- 5. Both the good person and the bad person can only boast in the cross. How do you boast in the cross when you have been following God and can see that he is using you to do good works? How do you boast in the cross when you have failed?
- 6. Dave laid out a simple path of trusting Jesus: 1. Confess your sin 2. Embrace forgiveness. 3. Accept the reality that you're free 4. Live boasting in only the cross. Which step along that journey might you struggle with most?
- 7. What are practices you could put in place to help you only boast in the cross in your life? Consider things like taking time every morning to reflect on the gifts God gives, praying through the stations of the cross, listening to songs that praise Jesus for the cross, an awareness of the times you're tempted to boast and catching yourself before you praise yourself, etc.

# Application & Prayer (20 min)

# **Praying Together:** Pray for each other that you would each experience a deeper gratitude for the cross in the coming weeks as we approach Easter.

(If helpful, break into groups of Men/Women or 3-4 people. I would also recommend not simply listing many disconnected things from far removed aspects of your life, friends, or family, but focusing on those things in your own lives that need prayer that come out of this message or that come out of your 'highs and lows', and if necessary a few brief requests for other things going on)

#### Resources

#### Hyperlinked Scripture:

<u>Galatians 6:14 (Never boast), Galatians 3:10-14 (Cursed under Law), Galatians 4:18</u> (<u>Misguided Zeal</u>), <u>Philippians 3:6 (Paul's life</u>), <u>James 1:17 (Every good gift</u>) **Resources:** 

Sermon Podcast