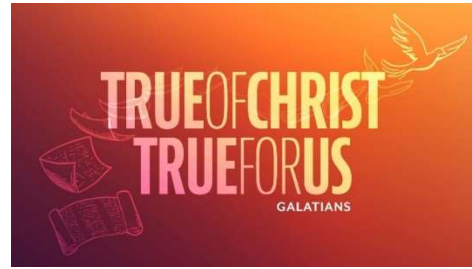


**November 12, 2023**  
Sermon Discussion Guide  
Galatians 6:11-18  
Preacher: Jerrod



## **SUMMARY**

*Big Idea: Our confidence is in Christ alone.*

6:11-18 concludes the book and our preaching series in Galatians. Fitting for a summary statement, Paul writes with passion and emphasis. In essence, Paul repeats the main points that he has stressed throughout the letter - contrasting his ministry, motives, and message with that of the false teachers, the centrality of faith alone for salvation compared to the hypocrisy of performance-based religion, the centrality of the cross of Jesus Christ as being central to the Christian life, and a closing benediction and prayer for these new believers in Galatia.

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

### **READ 6:11-18**

**Verse 12.** The false teachers desire to make a “good showing in the flesh”. What might this look like today?

- How does the mentioned motive in 12b clarify?
- How can we sniff this out? (in our church, in our own lives?)

**Verse 13** gives more of the false teachers motives and exposes their hypocrisy.

- Why/How is legalism hypocritical? Where does this show up in your life?
- How does this relate to the quote, “*I want to hate my sins more than I hate the sins of others who sin differently than I do*” ~ Burk Parsons

**Verse 14.** To “boast” in this sense is to exult joyously, to have a high confidence in something as the basis for our identity and therefore informs our sense of dignity and significance.

Paul paints the clear contrast: either we will boast in “our flesh” (v13) referring to anything about ourselves (self-confidence), or, we can by faith boast in the Cross (Christ-confidence).

- Where are you tempted toward self-confidence?
- How does boasting only in the cross liberate us from self/world-informed confidence?
- How does this relate to **verse 15?** (that moral *success* or moral *failure* cease to define us, and the cross-produced “new creation” is now the basis of our new identity?)

**Verse 16** carries the thought further. In what way does walking by this “rule” (the way of life that boasts only in the cross) provide the only path to true peace? Are you experiencing such peace, such freedom? From these verses, what hinders experiencing this peace?

How can Paul speak of mercy and peace, and then go straight to **verse 17**, “...*I bear on my body the marks of Jesus*” (referring to his scars from persecution)? What kind of *peace* is this?

### **Reflecting on the Galatians Series**

Spend some time looking back through Galatians and your notes. Give opportunity for folks to share:

- What stood out to you as the most significant, most meaningful, most helpful?
- How have you seen this study shape, or re-shape your heart and life?
- How would you summarize the message of Galatians? (in 2-3 sentences)