



galatians

THE SIMPLE GOSPEL

discussion guide

WEEK 9: REAPING AND SOWING

Read the Text

Galatians 6

¹ Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. ² Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. ³ For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. ⁴ But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor. ⁵ For each will have to bear his own load.

⁶ Let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches. ⁷ Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. ⁸ For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. ⁹ And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. ¹⁰ So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

Main Point

Galatians 6 brings us to the end of this powerful letter. We've spent the last eight weeks talking about the simplicity of the Gospel and how it's all about GOD and not all about US. In this

final chapter, we learn about how we are to respond as followers of Jesus. Instead of white-knuckling through life and trying our hardest to follow all the rules and laws, ***Paul points out that we can actually fulfill the entire law by doing one thing: care for the people God has made.*** This is where carrying each other's burdens comes in. We aren't meant to live this life alone! We need one another to walk alongside as we struggle with sin and trials. This is why Doxa is so passionate about seeing all our people involved in Missional Communities and DNA groups. Bearing each other's burdens doesn't mean having no boundaries though. ***Paul warns that we also need to do our own personal work rather than exclusively relying on the help and care of others.*** Neglecting our own spiritual formation and personal discipleship will lead us to co-dependence, enmeshment, and laziness. When we bear one another's burdens while also taking responsibility for our own personal work, amazing blessing results. Paul assures us that we will reap what we sow. ***As we invest in our lives, relationships, faith, and discipleship, we will also reap benefits.***

Reflect Together

- 1. *Who is God?*** Why is loving one another and bearing each other's burdens the best way to fulfill the law? How does it reflect who God is?
- 2. *What has He done?*** How have you experienced sowing and reaping in your life? This is a great time to remember specific ways God has worked in your lives and to share evidence of His grace with one another. Remember – you are boasting in Jesus!
- 3. *Who are you?*** What does bearing one another's burdens look like in your life right now? How are others bearing your burdens, and how are you bearing the burdens of others?
- 4. *What are you to do?*** What is one specific way you would like to grow in both sharing your burdens with others and likewise bearing the burdens of others?

Abide Together

Take some time to live this out. What is burdening you in your life right now? How can your community support you and walk you through this?

Mission Together

Loving one another by bearing each other's burdens is one of the most powerful ways we can walk out the Gospel. Who is a non-believer in your life right now that could use someone to bear their burden? What's one step you can take to reach out to that person and to be their burden-bearer?