

Galatians 6: Grace Refined

5-Day Devotional

GALATIANS 6

No Fine Print, All Grace

THE ROAD WE'VE TRAVELED



CHAPTER 1 Grace Experienced

Paul's Conversion on the Road to Damascus
Galatians 1:13-17



CHAPTER 2 Grace Tested

Paul Confronting Peter's Lack of Grace
Galatians 2:11-14



CHAPTER 3 Grace Applied

There are No Distinctions in the Church
Galatians 3:26-29



CHAPTER 4 Grace Abandoned

Who's Your Momma? Hagar or Sarah
Galatians 4:8-9



CHAPTER 5 Grace Multiplied

Fruit of the Holy Spirit
Galatians 5:22-23



CHAPTER 6 Grace Refined

Don't Compare, Look Inside
Galatians 6:4-5

THE THEOLOGICAL CENTER OF THE ENTIRE SERIES

v. 15

“Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything. What counts is a *new creation.*”

- Everything gets blown up in one sentence.
- The rules. The requirements. The additions. The tollbooths. The scorecards. The comparison game.
- Life in Christ is not about what you do, but what's been done for you.
- The new creation doesn't begin with what you do. It begins with what was done for you.



- Six weeks ago Paul fired off a theological hand grenade. Today he lands the plane.
- And spoiler — he's still prickly at the end.

1 PUT DOWN THE SCORECARD vv. 1-2



- When someone in the community stumbles, help them—don't judge them.
- Don't stand over them. Don't catalog their failure. Don't feel confirmed in your own superiority.

Restore them. Gently.
Watch yourself in the process.

- “Bear one another's burdens”—that's the opposite of keeping score.
- Confidence in your own spiritual superiority is the first sign you've missed the point entirely.

REAL SPIRITUALITY DOESN'T GRADE ON A CURVE WITH YOU AT THE TOP.
IT GETS DOWN IN THE DIRT AND HELPS CARRY THE WEIGHT.



2 COMPARE YOURSELF TO YOURSELF vv. 4-5



- Paul doesn't kill the comparison game—he changes the rules.
- Compare yourself to yourself. How's that going?
- Am I growing? Am I the same as I was a year ago? Five years ago?
- Am I going backwards?
- If the honest answer is backwards—that's not condemnation, that's a signal.
- You know where the on-ramp is. Return to Jesus.

REMEMBER CHAPTER 4—DON'T RUN BACK TO MOMMA HAGAR.
THE OLD LIFE ISN'T WHAT YOU THINK YOU'RE MISSING.

Grace already settled your standing before God—but growth is still the direction of travel.

3 YOU REAP WHAT YOU SOW v. 7



A UNIVERSAL PRINCIPLE—IT CUTS IN TWO DIRECTIONS.

UPWARD—TOWARD GOD

- In your relationship with Jesus, grace deliberately violates the sowing and reaping principle.
- You sowed sin. You reaped forgiveness. That's not karma. That's grace.
- You get what you don't deserve. That's the whole gospel.
- So why are you standing over someone else with a ledger? Sow grace into people—because that's exactly what was sown into you.

HORIZONTAL—TOWARD OTHERS

- Grace doesn't suspend natural consequences in your relationships and community.
- Act like a jerk—don't be surprised when that comes back to you.
- Paul is not confused. You sowed division. You're reaping division.
- The grace of Jesus covers your standing before God. It does not suspend cause and effect in your daily life.

THE LAW OF THE HARVEST:
YOU GET BACK WHAT YOU PUT OUT.
YOU DON'T PLANT CORN IN THE SPRING AND EXPECT SOYBEANS IN THE FALL.

4 THE NEW CREATION v. 15



THE CENTERPIECE IS LOVE

- The Spirit is given out of love—to keep reminding us what love looks like in human form, because Jesus spoke love and lived love and died love.
- Faith isn't white-knuckling your way toward God—it's a response to being loved by someone worthy of trust.

WHY TRUST REQUIRES LOVE

- God designed faith to work not as rule-following, not as requirement-meeting, but as a response to being loved first.

“We love because he first loved us.” 1 John 4:19

- Sustained faith isn't willpower. It's coming back again and again to the One who loved you before you knew to ask for it.



LIKE THE BREAKFAST CLUB

Five strangers, from different cliques, forced to spend the day together. They could have judged. Instead, something changed because they chose to see each other differently.

THAT'S GRACE. THAT'S LOVE.
THAT'S THE NEW CREATION.



THE TAKEAWAY

- ✓ Don't keep score—carry burdens.
- ✓ Don't compare to others—compare to yourself.
- ✓ Sow grace and good—reap what you sow.
- ✓ What counts is the new creation.
- ✓ Live loved. Love others.

No Fine Print. All Grace.



WE ARE NO LONGER STRANGERS WITH SCORECARDS,
WE ARE NEW CREATIONS SOWING GRACE AND LIVING IN LOVE.

GALATIANS 6

Day 1: Grace Experienced

Reading: Galatians 1:11-24

11 I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel I preached is not of human origin. 12 I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it; rather, I received it by revelation from Jesus Christ.

13 For you have heard of my previous way of life in Judaism, how intensely I persecuted the church of God and tried to destroy it. 14 I was advancing in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people and was extremely zealous for the traditions of my fathers. 15 But when God, who set me apart from my mother's womb and called me by his grace, was pleased 16 to reveal his Son in me so that I might preach him among the Gentiles, my immediate response was not to consult any human being. 17 I did not go up to Jerusalem to see those who were apostles before I was, but I went into Arabia. Later I returned to Damascus.

18 Then after three years, I went up to Jerusalem to get acquainted with Cephas[a] and stayed with him fifteen days. 19 I saw none of the other apostles—only James, the Lord's brother. 20 I assure you before God that what I am writing you is no lie.

21 Then I went to Syria and Cilicia. 22 I was personally unknown to the churches of Judea that are in Christ. 23 They only heard the report: "The man who formerly persecuted us is now preaching the faith he once tried to destroy." 24 And they praised God because of me.

Devotional:

Paul's testimony reminds us that no one is beyond the reach of God's grace. He was actively persecuting Christians when Jesus intervened in his life. If grace could transform Paul from a persecutor to an apostle, it can transform anyone. Today, reflect on your own grace story. When did you first experience God's unmerited favor? Perhaps you were running from God, living in rebellion, or simply unaware of your need. Grace found you anyway. Don't let familiarity with your story diminish its power. Your experience of grace is the foundation for sharing it with others who feel unworthy or too far gone.

Reflection Question: *How has experiencing God's grace personally changed the way you view others who are struggling?*

Day 2: Grace Without Distinction

Reading: Galatians 3:26-29

²⁶ So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, ²⁷ for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Devotional:

In baptism, all human-made categories dissolve. Paul declares there is neither Jew nor Gentile, slave nor free, male nor female—we are all one in Christ Jesus. Yet we constantly create new distinctions: political affiliations, economic status, theological preferences, lifestyle choices. We label and categorize, creating first-class and second-class Christians. But grace doesn't grade on a curve. The ground at the foot of the cross is level. When you look at fellow believers today, can you see past the labels to their identity as children of God? The same grace that washed you clean has washed them too. Let that truth reshape how you view the body of Christ.

Reflection Question: *What distinctions or labels do you use to categorize other Christians, and how might God be calling you to lay them aside?*

Day 3: Grace Multiplied

Reading: Galatians 5:22-26

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. ²⁴ Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. ²⁶ Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.

Devotional:

Grace is not static; it multiplies through the Holy Spirit's work in our lives. The fruit of the Spirit—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control—are gifts that grow as we lean into God's presence. These aren't achievements to earn or boxes to check; they're evidence of grace at work. When you find yourself impatient, unkind, or anxious, don't reach for self-improvement strategies alone. Instead, ask the Spirit to cultivate these qualities in you. Grace multiplied means you have access to divine resources for transformation. You don't have to manufacture spiritual fruit through willpower—you simply need to remain connected to the vine.

Reflection Question: *Which fruit of the Spirit do you most need in your life right now, and how can you invite the Holy Spirit to cultivate it?*

Day 4: Grace Instead of Judgment

Reading: Galatians 6:1-5

⁶ Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently. But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted. ² Carry each other's burdens, and in this way, you will fulfill the law of Christ. ³ If anyone thinks they are something when they are not, they deceive themselves. ⁴ Each one should test their own actions. Then they can take pride in themselves alone, without comparing themselves to someone else, ⁵ for each one should carry their own load.

Devotional:

When someone stumbles, our first instinct often reveals what's truly in our hearts. Do we rush to restore or to judge? Paul's instruction is clear: gently restore those caught in sin. This doesn't mean ignoring wrongdoing, but it does mean approaching others with humility, remembering we're all in the same boat. The SS Sinner has room for everyone. When you're tempted to look down on someone struggling differently than you, remember that grace levels the playing field. Instead of comparing yourself to others, compare yourself to who you were last year. Are you growing in compassion? Are you quicker to forgive? Grace refined means becoming more like Jesus in how we treat the broken.

Reflection Question: *Is there someone in your life right now who needs restoration rather than judgment from you?*

Day 5: Grace That Transforms Community

Reading: Galatians 6:7-10, 14-18

⁷ Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows.⁸ Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. ⁹ Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. ¹⁰ Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

¹⁴ May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. ¹⁵ Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is the new creation. ¹⁶ Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule—to the Israel of God.

¹⁷ From now on, let no one cause me trouble, for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus.

¹⁸ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen.

Devotional:

What you sow, you will reap. If you sow judgment, comparison, and spiritual superiority, you'll harvest division and isolation. But if you sow grace, forgiveness, and love, you'll cultivate genuine community. Paul reminds us that neither external markers nor religious performance matter—what counts is the new creation. Like the Dr. Seuss story of the Sneetches, when we stop keeping score, when we remove the stars from our bellies and see each other as fellow recipients of undeserved mercy, true fellowship begins. The masks come off. The labels fall away. We discover we all struggle, just differently. And in that shared brokenness, covered by shared grace, we find belonging. Don't give others grief—give them grace. That's how the kingdom grows.

Reflection Question: *What would change in your relationships if you consistently chose to sow grace instead of judgment?*

Closing Prayer:

Lord Jesus, thank You for the grace that found me when I was lost, that saved me when I was broken, and that continues to refine me each day. Help me to extend the same grace to others that You have so freely given to me. Remove the labels I place on people and help me see them as You do—beloved children in need of the same mercy I received. Fill me with Your Spirit so that love, joy, peace, and kindness overflow from my life into the lives of others. May I never forget that I am saved by grace alone. Amen.