

# Crucified with Christ

## Lesson Six: Walk by the Spirit

### Galatians 5:1-12

1. What does Paul state about the Galatians in Galatians 5:1? What should they not do as a consequence? How does this relate to the previous discussion?
2. According to Galatians 5:2, what consequence do the Galatians face if they receive circumcision? What further consequence does Paul address in Galatians 5:3? According to Galatians 5:4, what's the basic problem here? Should this teach us anything? If so, what?
3. By contrast, how does Paul describe true Christianity in Galatians 5:5? How does he support this statement in Galatians 5:6? How is this different from what the Galatians are doing? If Paul is so worked up about circumcision, why does he say here that it means nothing?
4. What does Paul ask in Galatians 5:7? How does his statement in Galatians 5:8 show what prompted the question? How has Paul proven Galatians 5:8 to be true?
5. What does Paul reveal in Galatians 5:9? What is he referring to? What should this principle teach us?

### The Fruit of the Spirit

*As the harvest approaches, even the observer who has never farmed a day in his life can tell how the crop is doing. Is the corn thick and tall, or is it lifeless and stunted after the summer's drought? Do the orchard boughs hang heavy with fruit, or are they barren as a result of the hailstorm last May? The truth is plain to see.*

*In the same way, the worldly observer who has never served Christ for a day of his life can tell what kind of Christians we are simply by looking at us. "Outsider" and "stupid" are not synonyms; if we are hypocrites or sanctimonious Pharisees, the people around us have little difficulty in discerning the truth. They know who we are from the fruit we bear.*

*Paul describes some of our most important fruit in Galatians 5:22-23. To the Christian who is looking for an excuse to be useless, these fruit are vague and undefined. "What am I supposed to do?" he asks disingenuously, hoping to receive no answer. However, to the committed child of God, these two verses describe the bounty of a spiritual harvest more completely than any list of specific commands ever could. The command to love, for instance, is not a minimum we must fulfill. It is a divine ideal to which we aspire. We have only loved enough when we have loved as much as Jesus.*

*If we are truly committed to bearing this sort of fruit for God, it will be obvious. People may not know precisely what we believe or where we go to church, but they will know that we are children of God. As the Scripture bears this fruit in our lives, it will not prove infertile. Instead, it will take root in the hearts and minds of others, so that it will bear a harvest of souls on the last day. May all of us produce fruit like this!*

6. What does Paul reveal about his confidence in the Galatians in Galatians 5:10? What is he equally confident of concerning the one who is troubling them? How aware does Paul seem to be of the identity of this teacher? Why? What does this tell us about these men? Galatians 2:4 may shed some light on this.
7. What does Paul ask in Galatians 5:11? Why would he ask this? What ironic statement does Paul make about what would happen if he did this? Instead, what does Paul say he wishes for the troublers of the Galatians? What does this mean? Why is this a strange thing for Paul to say?

### Galatians 5:13-24

1. What does Paul say about the Galatians in Galatians 5:13? What should they not do as a result? What should they do instead? How does he justify this statement in Galatians 5:14? What does this mean?
2. What other possible course of action does Paul highlight in Galatians 5:15? What can easily happen if they pursue this course of action? How large a danger is this in today's church? How can we ensure that it doesn't happen?
3. What command does Paul give in Galatians 5:16? What will not happen if they do this? How can we put this into practice?
4. How is this consequence explained by Galatians 5:17? What negative result of walking by the Spirit does he describe? What positive result is set forth in Galatians 5:18?
5. In Galatians 5:19-21, what does Paul discuss? What things does he list in this category? Is this an exhaustive list? How do we know? What will happen to those who practice these things?
6. By contrast, what is the topic in Galatians 5:22-23? What are these things? What does Paul say about them? What does this mean? Why is this list important?
7. In Galatians 5:24, what does Paul say that those who belong to Christ have done? What does this mean? How do we do it?