



Galatians

FREEDOM BY FAITH

Winning the War

Galatians 5:25-6:5

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Galatians 5:25-6:5 continues the Bible's teaching on the war between the desires of our flesh and the desires of God's Spirit. In this passage, Paul uses instruction, an illustration, and an incentive to help us experience victory in this war.

1. **The Instruction (5:24-25) – Believers are to be continuously putting fleshly desires to death, as we keep in step with God's Spirit.**

2. **The Illustration (5:26-6:3) – Fleshly desires lead us toward conceit, toward provoking and envying one another, while the Spirit urges us to be aware of our own weakness and to depend on the Spirit and on our brothers and sisters.**

3. The Incentive (6:4-5) – As believers, we live and serve in community, but we will stand accountable before God as individuals.

Questions to Consider

1. Have you been more aware of conflict between the desires of God's Spirit for your life competing with the desires of your flesh? Can you think of a specific recent instance? If so, how did you respond?
2. Who are the actors in 5:24-25? i.e. Who is carrying out the action? What is the action in v. 24? What should believers be doing, according to v. 25?
3. What does it mean, in practical terms, to keep in step with God's Spirit?
4. What are some practical ways that you can be crucifying fleshly desires that tempt you?
5. Paul illustrated the war against fleshly desires by focusing on conceit. What does conceit do that specifically undermines the work of God's Spirit?
6. Reread Galatians 6:1. Describe the inner heart attitudes that God's Spirit desires of His people, as described in this verse?
7. How is the ministry of believers in Galatians 6:1 distinctly different from the ways in which the world responds to failures and offense? Can you recall an instance in which other believers pursued you to help restore you after you had fallen?
8. After so much emphasis on *community*, why does Paul focus so much on individuals in 6:4-5?

Next Week's Sermon Text: Galatians 6:6-18