

Something to Boast About

Galatians 6:1-10

Peer pressure can have a strong influence on us. The style of our clothes, the kind of music we listen to, our vocabulary, even the brands we buy at the grocery store are impacted by what others do and say. We are often tempted to change our behavior so others will accept us. But such acceptance can be costly. In this closing passage, Paul gets us to consider whose approval we desire most.

Paul normally dictated his letters to someone who wrote them down. But Paul decides to add his final remarks himself, writing in large letters. He shows the big difference between himself and his opponents by revealing what each desires to boast about.

Read Galatians 6:11-18

1. Why is Paul drawing attention to his handwriting style? (v. 11)

2. Explain how the Judaizers avoid persecution by requiring Gentiles to be circumcised. (v. 12)

3. Do circumcised people obey the law? Why or why not? (v. 13)

4. Why do they want the Gentiles to be circumcised? (v. 13)

5. What is the only thing Paul is willing to boast in? (v. 14)

6. What does Paul mean that the world is crucified to him and he to the world? (v. 14)

7. In what way are Christians “new creations”? Read Colossians 2:9-12 and 2 Corinthians 5:14-17 for further insight. (v. 15)

8. What is the rule Paul mentions? (v. 16)

9. Who does Paul mean by “the Israel of God”? (v. 16)

10. What are “the marks of Jesus” Paul bears on his body? (v. 17)

11. Why do these marks serve as a warning to anyone who would cause Paul trouble? (v. 17)

12. Paul ends the letter with a typical benediction. How does he address them, and why is this important to note? (v. 18)

Life Application

13. In what situations are you tempted to hide or dilute your Christian beliefs in order to make a good impression with others?

14. As a new creation in Christ, how are you different from those who live by the basic principles of the world?

15. What passage or passages from the book of Galatians are your favorite? Why?
