

# Living a Crucified Life

## Galatians 5:22-25

Welcome back and here we go! Can you believe it is already April? Passover/Easter has passed and the celebration of Christ's resurrection is done, or is it? I think we should continue to celebrate all year long! And we do that in one way ---- *leading a crucified life!*

**Galatians 2:17-21** <sup>17</sup> *"But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is Christ therefore a minister of sin? Certainly not! <sup>18</sup>For if I build again those things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. <sup>19</sup>For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God. <sup>20</sup>I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. <sup>21</sup>I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain."*

1) What is a *crucified life*?

Each of us must live a life that reflects we are striving to put away the very behaviors that kept us separated from God. It's interesting because the text says we build ourselves up and make ourselves a *transgressor*, meaning that even as a born again believer, I may relapse into old behaviors --- yet I still can live by faith that Jesus died for me and He loves me the same!

### **Galatians 2:20-21**

2) What does it mean *"the life I live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son"*?

The enemy is quick to remind us of our shortcomings. He will always condemn us. It is then that we give up, because in our hearts we agree --- *"Yes, I'm a loser"* --- *"Yes, I'll never win this battle with sin"* --- *"I don't deserve to be a Christian"* --- *"I'm a lousy Christian."*

3) What are some of the things you tell yourself when you mess up?

In the same way, often our sin nature has us treat others poorly.

**Galatians 5:19-21** <sup>19</sup> *'Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, <sup>20</sup>idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, <sup>21</sup>envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.'*

The works of the flesh are evident!

**Galatians 5:22-26** *'But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.'*

4) How does a person walk in the Spirit?

*Crucifying* --- dying to our desires daily --- continually repenting and asking for forgiveness --- this keeps us in lock step with the Spirit.

*Crucifying* your flesh is a choice. What wins out with you? Some days I do better than others! But hear this warning...

**Galatians 6:7-10** *'Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.'*

5) What does it mean "God is not mocked"?

You know the idea is that God is fully aware of our struggles. He gives us long leashes and is long suffering. But, if we get to the place of arrogance, we will harvest brokenness and pain. This can all be avoided by living a *crucified life*.

**Hebrews 12:3-4** *'For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls. You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin'.....*

.... Meaning how hard are we actually fighting against the sin we desire?

I want to close with a word of encouragement.

**Romans 7:15-25**

6) What do I mean when I say "It's not what you do; it's how you feel and think about what you do"?

Jesus already died for your sins. He was crucified.

Now we are to die/crucify our desires.

7) Where can you do better?