

Galatians 5:22 – 6:10

New American Standard Bible (NASB)

1 ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace,
 2 patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
 3 ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things
 4 there is no law. ²⁴ Now those who belong to Christ
 5 Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and
 6 desires.
 7 ²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the
 8 Spirit. ²⁶ Let us not become boastful, challenging
 9 one another, envying one another.
 10 ^{6:1} Brethren, even if anyone is caught in any
 11 trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one
 12 in a spirit of gentleness; *each one* looking to
 13 yourself, so that you too will not be tempted.
 14 ² Bear one another's burdens, and thereby fulfill
 15 the law of Christ. ³ For if anyone thinks he is
 16 something when he is nothing, he deceives
 17 himself. ⁴ But each one must examine his own
 18 work, and then he will have *reason for* boasting in
 19 regard to himself alone, and not in regard to
 20 another. ⁵ For each one will bear his own load.
 21 ⁶ The one who is taught the word is to share all
 22 good things with the one who teaches *him*. ⁷ Do
 23 not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever
 24 a man sows, this he will also reap. ⁸ For the one
 25 who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap
 26 corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will
 27 from the Spirit reap eternal life. ⁹ Let us not lose
 28 heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap if
 29 we do not grow weary. ¹⁰ So then, while we have
 30 opportunity, let us do good to all people, and
 31 especially to those who are of the household of the
 32 faith.

Observation (What does it say?):

Consider the observation questions on the back of this page. What do you notice in this passage?

Notice some of the grammar of this passage:

- Where does Paul use plural references, and where does he use singular?
- Circle the imperatives (i.e., direct commands) that Paul gives to the Galatian believers.
- What other observations get your attention in this passage?

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

After observing the passage:

- What distinctions do you see between the things Paul says as plural or singular?
- What connection do you see (if any) between the various commands?
- What questions come to mind as you read?

Application (What does it mean for me?):

- How might the guidelines of Soul Care help you to apply this passage? How do the categories of self-obsession and God-obsession help you see this passage in practical terms (or do they)?
 - What emotions or desires are in you? (Think PASSION)
 - What emotions or desires are in the other person? (Think BENEATH)
 - What might God be doing in the person? (Think VISION)
 - What has shaped this person? (Think STORY)
 - What would draw this person toward God? (Think MOVEMENT)
- What would be different (attitudes, behavior) if God used this passage to change you?

Additional questions for thought and discussion:

Inductive Bible Study

(A few general ideas)

Observation (What does it say?)

What facts do you **observe** about the passage that help bring out the writer's thought process?

- Who are the people involved?
- What action takes place?
- What type of literature is it (poetry, history, didactic, etc.)?
- What details are included or left out?
- Are any unusual words used?
- Is there symbolic language?
- What is the grammar of the passage (pronouns, prepositions, verb tenses)?
- Are words or ideas repeated?
- Any comparisons or contrasts?
- Any cause and effect?
- Are there indications of purpose ("in order that...")?
- Are there conclusions ("Therefore...")?
- Are there explanations?
- Does the passage logically break into sections?
- How would you summarize the passage?
- What would be a good "headline" for the passage?

Interpretation (What does it mean?)

What questions come to mind about the facts that would help you **interpret** the meaning?

- How would the original readers have understood the passage?
- What is the main emphasis?
- Why does the writer use repetition, or contrast, or unusual words?
- What does the grammar or structure of the passage reveal about the writer's thought pattern?
- Is there a logical sequence in the passage?
- How are different ideas in the passage connected?
- Are there any new ideas or concepts presented?
- Are there difficulties in the passage?

Application (What does it mean for me?)

What is the impact on your life? What **application** does the Holy Spirit want to show you?

- Is there a command to obey?
- Is there a promise to be thankful for?
- Is there an attribute of God to worship?
- Is there an example to follow?

Read nothing into the Scriptures, but draw everything from them, and suffer nothing to remain hidden that is really in them.
J.A. Bengel (1687-1752)