

Galatians 5:26 – 6:10 An Application of Soul Care

²⁶ Let us not become boastful, challenging one another, envying one another.	<i>What emotions or desires are in you? (Think <u>PASSION</u>)</i>	What passions are driving you and how you respond to the other person? The <u>core battle</u> common to all of us is the battle between Self-Obsession and God-Obsession. How are your desires and passions related to the core battle within you?
^{6:1} Brethren, even if anyone is caught in any trespass,	<i>What emotions or desires are in the other person? (Think <u>BENEATH</u>)</i>	How might the words and actions and attitude of the other person relate to the core battle inside of him or her?
you who are spiritual, restore such a one	<i>What might God be doing in the person? (Think <u>VISION</u>)</i>	How might this person's life be different as self-obsession is recognized and God-obsession grows?
in a spirit of gentleness; <i>each one</i> looking to yourself, so that you too will not be tempted.	<i>What emotions or desires are in you? (Think <u>PASSION</u>)</i>	What passions are driving you and how you respond to the other person?
² Bear one another's burdens, and thereby fulfill the law of Christ.		
³ For if anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself. ⁴ But each one must examine his own work,	<i>What emotions or desires are in you? (Think <u>PASSION</u>)</i>	What passions are driving you and how you respond to the other person?
and then he will have <i>reason for</i> boasting in regard to himself alone, and not in regard to another. ⁵ For each one will bear his own load.		
⁶ The one who is taught the word is to share all good things with the one who teaches <i>him</i> .		
⁷ Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap.	<i>What has shaped this person? (Think <u>STORY</u>)</i>	How has the particular expression of the core battle in this person been shaped by circumstances, family, etc.?
⁸ For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption,		
but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.	<i>What would draw this person toward God? (Think <u>MOVEMENT</u>)</i>	What would help this person recognize the subtlety of self-obsession and the beauty of God-obsession?
⁹ Let us not lose heart in doing good,	<i>What emotions or desires are in you? (Think <u>PASSION</u>)</i>	What passions are driving you and how you respond to the other person?
for in due time we will reap if we do not grow weary.		
¹⁰ So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith.		

Soul Care¹

“Having conversations that matter” – Larry Crabb

What emotions or desires are in you?

(Think PASSION)

What passions are driving you and how you respond to the other person?

The core battle common to all of us is the battle between Self-Obsession and God-Obsession.

• **Self-Obsession vs. God-Obsession:**

- Self-Obsession: the conviction that I must protect myself from personal pain at all costs. My highest value becomes comfort, security, and a personal sense of well-being. I become increasingly dependent on second-things for my source of joy.
- God-Obsession: the conviction that God is infinitely good and loving, and that seeking to know Him and to advance His purposes is the only source of lasting and genuine joy. Drawing near to God as the first thing in my life is my source of joy.

How are your desires and passions related to the core battle within you?

What emotions or desires are in the other person?

(Think BENEATH)

How might the words and actions and attitude of the other person relate to the core battle inside of him or her?

What might God be doing in the person?

(Think VISION)

How might this person's life be different as self-obsession is recognized and God-obsession grows?

What has shaped this person?

(Think STORY)

How has the particular expression of the core battle in this person been shaped by circumstances, family, etc.?

What would draw this person toward God?

(Think MOVEMENT)

What would help this person recognize the subtlety of self-obsession and the beauty of God-obsession?

¹ Adapted from *Guide to Soul Care*, NewWay Ministries, 2006.

<http://newwayministries.org/>