

GALATIANS

Freedom in the One Gospel

February 14: Living in Freedom (chapters 5-6)

So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. 3:26-27

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery. 5:1

The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself in love 5:6

You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. 5:13

We follow the Law by the Spirit

Under the Law only - binds / curbs the sinful nature

Led by the Spirit – living in Freedom

Freedom is not doing whatever your desire leads you to do
(slavery to the sinful nature)

Freedom is living as you were created
(led by the Spirit)

To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as to win those under the law. ²¹ To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law), so as to win those not having the law. I Corinthians 9:20-21

Living produces fruit (some is obvious)

5:19 -- Fruit of the sinful nature:

5:22 – Fruit of the Spirit:

5:21 “Those who continue to live...”

habits reinforce themselves and lead to life / death

5:25 live by the Spirit → keep in step with the Spirit

remember which comes first (see previous chapters)

6:1 Restore each other gently
“you can’t judge me”
By being in the family together, we are asking each other to help stay in line

6:9 Don’t give up – Life in the Spirit is an ongoing struggle

6:11 large letters (reference to 4:14?)

6:12 “to avoid being persecuted”
Avoiding conflict by trying to have it both ways

6:14 “may I never boast in anything but the cross of Christ”
Always going back to the cross – Jesus as Savior not just example

6:18 “The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you, brothers”
A fitting summary to bless

Faith is like a piston

Works:

Can the car go without the works?

Can you have the works without faith?

How are the “works” helpful?

“I love having Mormon neighbors.”

“God does not need your good works, but your neighbor does”