

**“Follow Your Leader”**  
**Galatians 6:2-6**

**Introduction:**

1. This Morning, Let's Head Back Over To Galatians Once Again:
  - Galatians Chapter 6!
    - **IE:** There's A Simple Game That Nearly Every Child Loves To Play! It Is – “Follow The Leader!” – Perhaps You Remember Playing It When You Were A Child – Or When You Were Playing It With Your Children! In Fact, The Name Of The Game Is The Only Rule Of The Game – You Simply Need To “Follow The Leader” – Wherever He Leads & Even However He Leads! So If Your Leader Crawls, You Crawl! If Your Leader Hops On One Foot, You Hop On One Foot!
  - Well, Back In Galatians:
    - We Have Been Looking At What It Means:
      - For A Christian To “Walk In The Spirit!”
    - And To Put It Simply:
      - You Just Need To “Follow Your Leader!”
      - 5:18 - “But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law!”
    - Now - For A Christian:
      - It Is Not A Matter Of “If” You Are Led:
        - By The Holy Spirit Of God!
      - It Is A Matter Of “Since” You Are Led:
        - By Him!
    - And So - To “Walk In The Spirit” Means:
      - To Follow His Leading!
        - But How Does He Lead Us?
2. The Holy Spirit Does Not Lead Us In An Arbitrary Way!
  - He Leads Us According To A Different Law: “The Law Of Christ!”
    - Which We Find In 6:2:
      - “And So Fulfill The Law Of Christ!”
      - And What Is His Law?
    - The Primary Legal Principle Of Christ's Law:
      - Is Love!
        - Love For God & Love For Others!
    - But The Difference Between This New Law:
      - And That Old Law - Given At Mt. Sinai:
        - Is That God Himself Gives You All You Need In Order To Fulfill This Law!
      - Because - 5:22 - “The Fruit Of The Spirit Is Love!”
    - And So - The Fruit Of God's Love:
      - Is The Fulfilment Of God's Law!
3. So - How Does The Spirit Lead Us?
  - He Instructs Us In The “Law Of Christ!”
    - **IE:** Just Like When A Child Plays “Follow The Leader” - The Leader Will Give Instructions To Those Who Follow Him! So, We Find These Instructions In The Word Of God!
4. And This Morning:
  - We Are Going To Look At Some Of Those Instructions!
    - In 6:2-6 - Where We Are Given Three Specific Commands:
      - Instructions:
        - All Of Which Flow From The “Law Of Christ” Itself!
      - 6:2-6 - “Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ. / For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself. / But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another. / For every man shall bear his own burden. / Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things!”
      - Do You Want To:
        - “Walk In The Spirit?”
        - Then - “Follow Your Leader” This Morning – God Himself – As He Guides Us On His Path!

\* The First Instruction Is To:

## 1. *Share Your Fruit!*

- Which We See In 6:2-3 - "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ. / For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself!"
  - The First Responsibility Every Christian Is Given:
    - Is To "Bear One Another's Burdens!"
  - To "Bear" Simply Means:
    - To Help Someone Carry:
      - Their Heavy Load!
  - And The "Burdens" Include:
    - Any Kind Of Struggle:
      - Another Brother Or Sister In Christ May Be Going Through!
  - And So - We Need To:
    - "Share Our Fruit" Because Of:
- The Needs Of Others!
  - And To "Walk In The Spirit" Means:
    - That The Needs & Burdens Of Others Will Be On Your Radar:
      - So That You Can Do All You Can To Help Them!
  - But We Also Need To "Share Our Fruit" Because Of:
- The Nature Of Ourselves!
  - Which We See In 6:3!
    - It Is So Natural For Us To Live Our Lives:
      - With Our Spiritual Radars Turned Off!
  - And Instead Of "Esteeming Others Better Than Ourselves":
    - As We Find In Philippians 2:3:
      - We Think Of Ourselves "More Highly Than We Ought To Think!"
        - As Paul States In Romans 12:3!
  - One Of The Reasons God Himself Gives Us:
    - To "Bear One Another's Burdens" Is:
      - To Help Us With Our Pride!
        - Because, The More We Think Of Others, The Less We Will Think Of Ourselves!
  - In Fact - Paul Even Reminds Us That:
    - Any Pride In Ourselves Is Groundless:
      - Because, In Ourselves, We Are "Nothing!"
  - This Means That:
    - Anything I Am!
    - Anything I Have!
    - Anything I Do!
      - I Really Owe To God!
        - Calvin - "We Have Nothing Of Our Own Of Which We Have A Right To Boast!"
    - **IE:** Remember Nebuchadnezzar, The King Of Babylon - At The Height Of His Power & Pride, God Brought Him Low For 7 Years - Daniel 4:33, 37 - "He was driven from men, and did eat grass as oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven, till his hairs were grown like eagles' feathers, and his nails like birds' claws. / Now I Nebuchadnezzar praise and extol and honour the King of heaven, all whose works are truth, and his ways judgment: and those that walk in pride he is able to abase!"
  - And If You Have A Higher Opinion:
    - Of Yourself Than This:
      - You Are "Deceiving Yourself!"
        - And It Will Be Displayed In How You Respond To The Burdens & Needs Of Others!
    - Instead Of "Bearing Those Burdens" You Will:
      - Respond The Way James Describes In James 2:15-16 - "If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, / And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?"
- To Walk In The Spirit:

- We Need To Share The Fruit:
  - That God Is Growing & Cultivating In Our Lives:
    - Through His Spirit!
- We Need To “Fulfill The Law Of Christ” By:
  - Thinking About & Treating Others:
    - Even As Our Savior Thinks About & Treats Us!
  - Matthew 20:27-28 - “And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant: / Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many!”
- Will You “Follow Your Leader” Today?
  - He Is Telling Us To:
    - “Bear One Another’s Burdens, And So Fulfill The Law Of Christ!” (6:2)

\* The Second Instruction We Find Is To:

**2. Examine Your Fruit!**

- Which We See In 6:4-5 - “But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another. / For every man shall bear his own burden!”
  - The Second Responsibility Every Christian Is Given:
    - Is to “Prove His Own Work!”
  - To “Prove” Here Means:
    - To Examine And Test:
      - In Order To Verify If Your “Work” Is Genuine Or Not!
  - And The “Work” Here Means:
    - The External Fruit Of Your Life As A Christian!
      - It Is Asking This Question To Ourselves:
        - “Is What I Do Consistent With Who I Am – In Christ?”
  - We Are Told To Examine Ourselves In Other Verses Also:
    - 1 Corinthians 11:28 - “But let a man examine himself!”
    - 2 Corinthians 13:5 - “Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith!”
      - So - Part Of Our “Walk In The Spirit” Includes Times Of Self-Examination!
      - But What Is:
- The Rule For Our Examination?
  - It Is Not To Be “In Another!” (6:4)
    - It Is So Easy For Us To Compare:
      - Our Works With The Works Of Others!
      - And Our Fruit With The Fruit Of Others!
  - But As We Find In 2 Corinthians 10:12:
    - “Comparing Ourselves With Others Is Not Wise!”
      - That Is - “But they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise!”
  - The Mirror For The Examination Of Our Fruit:
    - Is Not To Be The Works Of Others!
      - **IE:** This Is What The Pharisees Did - Even In Their Prayers - Luke 18:11 - “The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican!”
    - Instead - The Mirror For Our Examination Is To Be The Word & Works Of Jesus Christ Himself!
  - You “Prove Your Own Work” By:
    - Looking To The Lord Jesus Christ!
      - Consider His Entrance Into Your Life!
        - Is Christ Living In You?
        - Are You “In The Faith?”
      - Consider His Enabling Of Your Life!
        - Are You Walking With Christ?
        - Are You Listening To His Word?
      - Consider His Example For Your Life!
        - Is Your Life & Love Looking More & More Like His?
  - If You Are Examining Your Fruit In This Way:

- Then Look At:
- The Result Of Our Examination:
  - 6:4 - “And then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another!”
    - This Is Not A Statement Of Pride!
      - In Your Own Accomplishments & Works!
    - Instead - It Means That A Christian Can Have:
      - “A Reason To Rejoice / Boast” In:
        - The Work Of God In His Life, And Not By Comparing Himself With Others!
  - John Eadie - “If A Man Examine Himself, And Find Not Only Faults And Frailties, But Also Germs Of Grace And Goodness, Then He Has A Ground Of Glorifying . . . In The Mercy And Power Of The Savior In Him! This Is Really Glorifying In The Lord!”
    - This Is Why Later In 6:14, Paul Writes - “But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ!”
  - And So The Goal For This Examination:
    - Is Not Your Own Glory In Your Own Work:
      - But To Give You The Opportunity To Glory In & Boast In God’s Work In Your Life!
      - And In 6:5 We See:
- The Responsibility For Our Examination:
  - 6:5 - “For every man shall bear his own burden!”
    - This Verse Does Not Contradict:
      - 6:2 - “Bear Ye One Another’s Burdens!”
    - Instead - It Serves A Different Purpose:
      - It Shows That Every Christian:
        - Has A Personal Responsibility To Examine Themselves – And Not Others!
        - And Is Accountable To The Lord, And Not To Others!
    - So Our Individual Burden:
      - Can Be Summed Up In The Words Of David:
        - Psalm 139:23-24 - “Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: / And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!”
      - But Then - Where Can You Take That Burden?
        - That Load? Matthew 11:28-30 - “Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. / Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. / For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light!”
  - So - To Walk In The Spirit:
    - We Need To Examine The Fruit:
      - That God Is Growing & Cultivating In Our Lives:
        - Through His Spirit!
    - We Need To “Fulfill The Law Of Christ” By:
      - Not Comparing Ourselves With Others:
        - But By “Rejoicing” In & Boasting In What Christ Has Done & Is Doing In Our Own Hearts & Lives!
    - Will You “Follow Your Leader” Today?
      - He Is Telling Us To:
        - “Prove [Your] Own Work!” (6:4)

\* We Also Find A Third Instruction - And That Is To:

### 3. ***Cultivate Your Fruit!***

- Which We Find In 6:6 - “Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things!”
  - The Third Responsibility Every Christian Is Given:
    - Is To “Communicate . . . In All Good Things!”
  - To “Communicate” Here Means:
    - To Share With Someone!
      - To Be A Partner With Someone!
  - Now - This Too Will Be:
    - A Manifestation Of The “Law Of Christ” And:
      - The “Fruit Of The Spirit” In:

- A Christians Life!
- But What Does This Mean?
  - First - Let's Look At:
- The Subjects Of This Sharing:
  - First Subject:
    - "Him That Is Taught In The Word!"
      - Who Does This Describe?
    - Every Christian!
      - Every True Child Of God!
        - To Be "Taught In The Word" Is A Great Privilege!
      - But Even If You Don't Listen To God's Word:
        - You Are Still Being Taught God's Word, Aren't You?
    - So - Every Christian:
      - Who Is "Taught In The Word" Has:
        - A Responsibility To Respond To That Privilege!
    - How? By "Communicating / Sharing . . . In All Good Things!"
      - But With Whom?
  - Second Subject:
    - "Him That Teacheth!"
      - Who Does This Describe?
    - Their Pastors & Teachers:
      - Who Faithfully Bring To Them:
        - The Word Of God!
    - So - Christians Are To "Share" Some Things With Their Pastors & Teachers!
      - So - What Is:
- The Significance Of This Sharing?
  - "In All Good Things!"
    - There Are Many Who Consider This To Mean:
      - In A Material Way!
        - That Is - To Share Their Good Material Things With Their Pastors, So That Their Pastors Can Continue To Feed Them The Word Of God!
    - And This Is Not A Foreign Concept!
      - 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18 - "Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine. / For the scripture saith, Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. And, The labourer is worthy of his reward!"
        - And, May I Add, Our Church Has Honored This Instruction Toward Me & My Family!
    - But What Is The Purpose Of Giving & Providing For The Needs Of Your Pastor?
      - In Part - To Show The Fruit Of The Spirit & To Fulfill The Law Of Christ!
        - But It Is Also An Investment In Your Own Continued Spiritual Growth Through The Word Of God!
      - Matthew 6:21 - "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also!"
  - But - Is This All That Paul Means When He Says:
    - "Communicate / Share . . . In All Good Things?"
      - I Don't Think So:
        - Because Of The Word "All!"
      - It's Not Just In Material Things:
        - Though That Is Certainly Included!
    - But Every Christian Is Instructed & Urged To:
      - Join With Their Pastors / Teachers:
        - In The Best Things!
          - Following The Leading Of The Holy Spirit Through His Word!
      - We Need To Join Together:
        - With A Greater Appreciation:
          - For The Word Of God! And:
        - With A Greater Application:
          - Of The Word Of God!

- We Need To Share:
  - An Eagerness For The Word Of God:
    - To Listen To It!
    - To Learn From It!
    - To Live By It!
- “In All Good Things!”
  - And Don’t Hold Back!
- So - To Walk In The Spirit:
  - We Need To Cultivate The Fruit:
    - That God Is Growing In Our Lives:
      - Through His Spirit!
  - We Need To “Fulfill The Law Of Christ” By:
    - “Communicating” & Sharing “In All Good Things!”
      - With Those God Has Given Us To “Declare Unto Us All The Counsel Of God” Through His Word! (Acts 20:27)
  - Will You “Follow Your Leader” Today?
    - The Leader Of Every Christian:
      - Is The Spirit Of Christ!
    - And He Is Telling Us To:
      - “Share . . . In All Good Things!” (6:6)

**Conclusion:**

1. To “Walk In The Spirit” As A Christian:
  - Means You Need To “Follow Your Leader!”
    - And Your Leader – The Holy Spirit:
      - Will Always Lead You:
        - Through His Word:
          - To The Lord Jesus Christ!
            - And To His Life & To His Law!
    - So - Are You Following Your Leader This Morning!
  - 2. Let Us Follow Him By:
    - Sharing Our Fruit:
      - By Bearing One Another’s Burdens!
    - Examining Our Fruit:
      - And Bring Our Own Load To Christ!
    - Cultivating Our Fruit:
      - And Sharing All Good Things:
        - As We Learn More & Look More:
          - Like Our Savior Jesus Christ!
    - “Follow Your Leader!”

\* “Let Him Have His Way With Thee!”

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