

WHITFIELD PARISH

St James' Church † St Luke's Church

LIFE Group Notes w/b Sunday 30 March 2008

Two ways to live
Galatians 5.26 – 6.18

We come to our last study in our series in Galatians.
To remind you:

- (i) Paul has defended the simple Gospel of Grace against some false teachers who taught that to be a Christian you must first become a Jew and keep the O.T. laws (chapters 1-4).
- (ii) He tells the Galatians of the freedom we have in Christ and how the Holy Spirit empowers us to live lives that are pleasing to God (chapter 5).

In this final part, we see Paul's description of the kind of church that is produced by the Gospel of Grace. It is realistic about human nature and humble.

Read Galatians 5 v.26 – 6 v.18

(the questions will concentrate on 5 v.26 – 6 v.5)

1. How might a Christian become "conceited" (v.26)?
2. John Stott says this of v.26: *"This is a very instructive verse because it shows that our conduct to others is determined by our opinion of ourselves."*
Can you think of examples in church life that demonstrate the truth of these words?

3. What does 6 v.1 say to us about:
 - a) the realities of church life?
 - b) the realities of our own frailty?
 - c) our attitudes to sin in the church?
 - d) does Matthew 12 v.20 have anything to say on this?
4. In the light of v.2, what burdens might a Christian have to carry? In which practical ways can we "carry each other's burdens"?
5. Looking at v.3:
 - a) how might we consider ourselves "something"?
 - b) in which ways are we "nothing"?
 - c) what does Philippians 2 v.3 say about this?
6. Looking at v.4-5:
 - a) does v.5 contradict v.2?
 - b) what point is Paul making in these verses?
7. What does v.9 mean? How does it fit in with the Gospel of Grace?
8. What does v.10 say to us about other believers?
9. How is v.14 a summary of the whole letter to the Galatians?
10. In Galatians, Paul presents to us two ways to live – what are they?