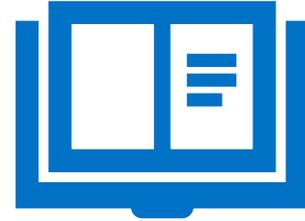


## Lesson 6

# GALATIANS

## 5:1-26- UNDERSTANDING LIBERTY



### Introduction

Imagine the scenario: You are imprisoned for years. Then, finally, one day, you are released from prison. What would be one of the first three things you would do in your freedom?

### Galatians 5:1-12

There is a serious warning for the Galatians here. If they were going to add on to what Jesus did, then they would no longer be free. Circumcision is no longer the temptation to add to Jesus. So what are we tempted to add to Jesus' completed work?

Circumcision isn't always wrong, but it was in this circumstance. To answer why let's consider the following two concepts: Adiaphora and Article X of The Solid Declaration of the Formula of Concord

What comparisons would you make in our day to the question of circumcision?

We are not to set subjective standards of sanctification. Yet, faith is worked out through love.

What non-biblical standards do we sometimes set for ourselves or others?

What should we expect a believer to do?

Paul warns them to watch out for any false doctrine. Based on Paul's warning, consider:

Can you think of at least three false doctrines for which to watch out?

Agree or Disagree: Because the cross is offensive, we won't get along with those who aren't believers.

### Galatians 5:13-15

Fist to Five: I have been tempted to use your freedom in Christ as the freedom to sin.

In the freedom of Christ, believers are not against the law; instead, they have a proper relationship to the law. In Christ, you are set free to love and serve your neighbor. Come up with at least five things that you are free to do for your neighbor now.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Can you think of a story demonstrating someone using their freedom in Christ to serve others freely?

### Galatians 5:16-26

Those, who are free in Christ, are led by the Holy Spirit. Naturally, then, they will desire to avoid the works of the flesh and bear the fruit of the Spirit.

Considering how believers walk in freedom, consider the works of the flesh they are to avoid and the fruit they are to bear.

Consider three of the works of the flesh. (Do any of them seem not to fit? Do you struggle with any of them? What does this show us about what God desires?)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Consider three of the fruit of the Spirit. (Do you see connections? Which do you see in your life? Which do you desire to bear in more abundance?)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

### Conclusion

React to this statement: To be free means to be a slave.