

# The General Electric Power Company Series

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Lesson #6 – Galatians 6

## Main Idea

Galatians 6 is the final chapter in the epistle of Galatians. As in any good book, Paul leaves his readers with some parting “words of wisdom.” There are at least two major thoughts that Paul is trying to communicate. The first point is that as Christians we need to get along. I continue to be amazed at how Christians can sometimes treat one other. Some Christians tend to be petty and critical in their dealings with fellow Believers. If I was watching from the outside, I have to admit that this would be one of the main reasons that I would hesitate to become part of a church. It is essential that we get along, especially when Christ told us, **By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another** (John 13:35). The second point is that we need to take our relationship with Christ seriously by not taking it for granted. Part of this idea involves encouraging and exhorting our brothers and sister in the Lord to live for Christ as well. At a certain point in our maturity, it is not enough that we should only be concerned with our own growth, but that we should begin to look towards the interest of others (Philippians 2:3-5 *...not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others*). My encouragement and challenge to you is to live for Christ and challenge others to partner with you in your growth experience. **The Christian life is so much richer and meaningful when lived among other Believers.**

## Outline for the Book of Galatians

Greetings & Introduction: Galatians 1:1-10

Part 1: Paul defends his apostolic ministry of the pure gospel. Galatians 1:11-2:21

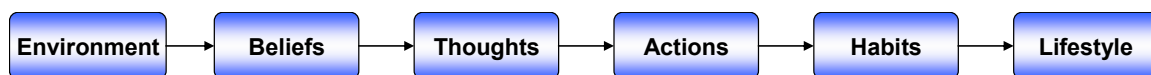
Part 2: Paul defends the gospel of justification and salvation by grace and faith alone. Galatians 3:1-4:31

[Part 3: Paul defends the freedom Christians have to love one another and live by the Spirit. Galatians 5:1-6:10](#)

Concluding Remarks: Galatians 6:11-18

## Questions for Consideration

- Galatians 6:1-5 is an excellent passage discussing personal and inter-personal relationships within the church. Consider the following as you read through these verses. Paul also exhorts us in Romans 12:18: *If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.*
  - Verses 1-2 discuss helping brothers and sisters in Christ stay pure. How important is this process and what is Paul’s warning?
  - What are we to do when we go to a brother or sister and they refuse to listen to us? Consider Matthew 18:15-20 and I Corinthians 5 in answering this question.
  - Verses 3-5 talk about personal accountability. How important is self-evaluation and carrying our own load? Consider our oft-used acronym shown in the graphic below: EBTAHL (Every Boy Thinks About Hunting Lions).



- The concept of reaping and sowing, as discussed in verses 6-10, is common throughout God’s Kingdom and the Bible. Give an example of a time when you saw a direct relationship between **actions on your part** and the **resulting consequences** (either good or bad).
- In verses 11-18 Paul talks about living under the New Covenant and taking pride in our relationship with Christ.
  - In what areas of your life do you take pride (be honest in responding)?
  - What does it mean to take pride in our salvation or boast in the cross, as Paul puts it? Is there a certain aspect of this concept that involves not taking our salvation for granted?



## Galatians 6 (New International Version, ©2010)

### Doing Good to All

<sup>1</sup> Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently. But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted. <sup>2</sup> Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. <sup>3</sup> If anyone thinks they are something when they are not, they deceive themselves. <sup>4</sup> Each one should test their own actions. Then they can take pride in themselves alone, without comparing themselves to someone else, <sup>5</sup> for each one should carry their own load. <sup>6</sup> Nevertheless, the one who receives instruction in the word should share all good things with their instructor.

<sup>7</sup> Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. <sup>8</sup> Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. <sup>9</sup> Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. <sup>10</sup> Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

### Not Circumcision but the New Creation

<sup>11</sup> See what large letters I use as I write to you with my own hand!

<sup>12</sup> Those who want to impress people by means of the flesh are trying to compel you to be circumcised. The only reason they do this is to avoid being persecuted for the cross of Christ. <sup>13</sup> Not even those who are circumcised keep the law, yet they want you to be circumcised that they may boast about your circumcision in the flesh. <sup>14</sup> May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which<sup>a</sup> the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. <sup>15</sup> Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is the new creation. <sup>16</sup> Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule—to<sup>b</sup> the Israel of God.

<sup>17</sup> From now on, let no one cause me trouble, for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus.

<sup>18</sup> The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen.

### Footnotes:

- a. [Galatians 6:14](#) Or whom
- b. [Galatians 6:16](#) Or rule and to

