



SERIES: WE ARE FREE (A Study of Galatians) December 2022 – January 2023

SPEAKER: NAT CRAWFORD

Monday, January 23, 2023

Scripture: Galatians 6:9-10

TITLE: Do Good, Bless Others

When times are tough financially, is your desire to give? Or is it to get? When times are tough are you inclined to give away your resources, or hold onto them even tighter?

If you're like me, when times are tough you want to hold on to whatever you have even tighter. But did you know that's actually a recipe for failure? Listen what the Apostle Paul says in Galatians chapter 6 beginning in verse nine.

And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

I have been blessed to know some very generous people. I know generous people who have a lot of resources and I know generous people who have very few resources. But I think this is the exception and not the norm.

We have been groomed to believe what we have is ours because we earned it and we deserve it. But did you know the Bible actually teaches that everything we have is from God? It's true. That's why James wrote, "Every good thing comes from God."

When we believe this, we can apply what Paul said in Galatians 6:9. We can do good without growing tired. Now it's true that Paul says, "In due season we will reap..." In other words, we will harvest what we have sown. Now this isn't a prosperity gospel that Paul is teaching us. He's not saying, you give to get—that if you give \$5 you'll get 5, 10, 15, or 20 back. But he is saying that God recognizes when we give generously and joyfully. God takes notice.

Paul says when we have the opportunity to do good, we should. In reality, there is no shortage of opportunity to do good and to bless other people. Whether it's through a Christian organization or to the individual God has provided us with blessings that we can cling on to and hoard, or we can use to demonstrate God's grace upon us.

Who is this generosity meant for? Paul says to everyone, but especially those who are believers.

This might surprise you, but God desires us to focus on the body of Christ. When there is a need we are called to come alongside brothers and sisters in Christ in generosity. You see, when we believe that God has unlimited resources and as His children He will provide us what we need – that prompts us and enables us to give freely to the body of Christ. And once those needs are met

and we've been obedient, we can and should be willing to look for opportunities to serve those who are far from God.

Today if you struggle with greed, first remember that God has promised to meet your needs. You may have to remember the difference between a want and a need. But He will provide for your needs. And then take one step and do one small act of generosity. God says you will harvest what you plant. Put God to the test and see how He has and will provide for you.