



Counterfeit grace says:

- My actions determine God's love for me.
- God's love allows me to live as I please.

1 Should we keep on sinning so that God can show us more and more of his wonderful grace?

2 Of course not!... Romans 6:1-2 (NLT)

God's grace defines your standing with God, your closeness to God is up to you.

1 So Christ has truly set us free. Now make sure that you stay free, and don't get tied up again in slavery to the law. Galatians 5:1 (NLT)

Living in God's grace:

- Is being free to serve the needs of others.

13 For you have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature (Flesh). Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love. Galatians 5:13 (NLT)

Here's why freedom is so important:

- The focus of the flesh is ourselves.
- The result of the flesh is death.
- The focus of freedom is Grace.
- The result of grace is love.

16 So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves.

17 The sinful nature wants to do evil, which is just the opposite of what the Spirit wants. And the Spirit gives us desires that are the opposite of what the sinful nature desires. These two forces are constantly fighting each other, so you are not free to carry out your good intentions.

18 But when you are directed by the Spirit, you are not under obligation to the law of Moses. Galatians 5:16-18 (NLT)

Barriers to God's grace:

- The desires of the flesh work against the Spirit.
- The Spirit helps us overcome the flesh.
- Overcoming our flesh is not done with will power, but with surrendering our will to the Spirit.

19 When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures,

20 idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division,

21 envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God. Galatians 5:19-21 (NLT)

22 But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

23 gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things! Galatians 5:22-23 (NLT)

How to live in God's grace:

- Establish the passions of your life.

24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there. Galatians 5:24 (NLT)

- Commit yourself to God's purpose.

25 Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives. Galatians 5:25 (NLT)

- Live your life to benefit others.

26 Let us not become conceited, or provoke one another, or be jealous of one another. Galatians 5:26 (NLT)

Have Questions? Text them to: (559)464-5754

Here are some questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for your personal time with God.

- What spoke most to you from Sundays Talk? Explain.
- Paul places a high value on freedom in chapter 5. Why is spiritual freedom so important?
- The greatest barrier to our expression of God's grace is ourselves. What are some of the ways our flesh prevents God's grace being shared with others? How do we deal with these barriers?
- Read Galatians 5:22-23; God produces these qualities to care for others. How do these qualities help others?
- What does it mean to you to establish the passions of your life?
- How does committing ourselves to God's purpose serve others?
- How will you live to benefit others?

Visit us at www.fresnoquest.com