



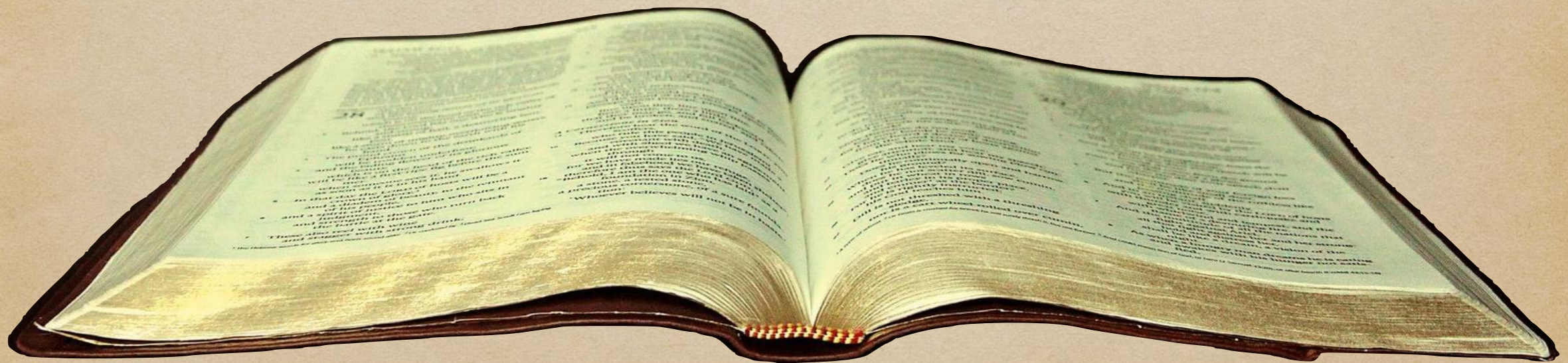
# Relationships Among The Brethren

## Part 1

Galatians 6:1-2

## Part 2

Galatians 6:3-5



## Galatians 5:25–6:8



**25** If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. **26** Let us not become boastful, challenging one another, envying one another.

**1** Brethren, even if anyone is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; *each one* looking to yourself, so that you too will not be tempted. **2** Bear one another's burdens, and thereby fulfill the law of Christ.

**3** For if anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself. **4** But each one must examine his own work, and then he will have *reason for* boasting in regard to himself alone, and not in regard to another. **5** For each one will bear his own load.

**6** The one who is taught the word is to share all good things with the one who teaches *him*. **7** Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap. **8** For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.



-We have spent the last 7 weeks studying Galatians 5:16 down thru 5:26 dealing with the subject of walking by means of the Holy Spirit.

-Remember, The Galatians had a major doctrinal problem.

-That problem was one of grace. **-Let's talk about Grace today**

-When Paul first came to the churches in Galatia, he taught them the gospel.

-The gospel is very simple: -It is based entirely on grace

**For by grace, you have been saved through faith. . . Eph 2:8**

**Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved. . . Acts 16:31**

-That is simply what Paul told the jailer in Philippi when asked , **“what must I do to be saved?”**

-Paul expresses it fuller in Galatians 2:16 and 2:20 When he writes:

**16 Nevertheless, knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the Law but through faith in Christ Jesus. . .**

**20 I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.**



- The problem: there were a bunch of Jews in the early church that were antagonistic to this gospel of grace.
- Grace means God did **everything** for us and salvation is a free gift.
- Following Paul from city to city they said Paul was great and his message of salvation was great.
- But they insisted that following the Old Testament Law system was also required to complete that salvation.
- In addition to salvation, if you really want a great spiritual life, a close walk with the Lord, there are some things you're going to have to do in addition to God's grace.
- The Galatian's problem with grace is the same problem we have today.
- Not only with the unbeliever, but also with the believer.
- The unbeliever wants to contribute something to his salvation, and the believer wants to do the same thing with his spiritual life.
- Chapters 3 and 4 emphasizes that **salvation** is all of grace.
- And chapters 5 and 6 emphasizes that the **believer's life** is all of grace.



-That is why Paul says in 5:16:

**But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.** -It does not say walk by following a bunch of rules.

-Then again in 5:18 and 5:25:

**But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law. (18)**

**If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. (25)**

-One thing that happens when you start emphasizing legalism or human ability, you're going to have a problem with the grace of God.

-And when you have a problem with grace, you end up with everything that goes against what I call 'grace orientation'.

-You have a problem with freedom. You don't understand what spiritual freedom is all about. **-It was for freedom Christ set us free. . . 5:1**

-You will also have a problem with humility. **-. . .not become boastful 5:26**

-Humility goes hand in hand with grace orientation.

-In grace orientation we realize that God did everything for us.

-Nothing is dependent on us. -It is faith alone in Christ alone.



- That is a very humbling concept; to realize as believers we simply **relax** in the plan of God.
- We can call that **'faith rest'**. Having a relaxed mental attitude.
- The spiritual life is not an effort of works, but one of resting in God's grace.
- So, here are three aspects of Galatians 5 that highlight God's grace:
  1. An understanding and appreciation for spiritual freedom
  2. A relaxed mental attitude
  3. Humility in light of God's grace
- Ignoring the grace of God leads to arrogance which was a major problem in the Galatian churches, as well as our churches today.
- This brings us to chapter 6 which can be summed up in Galatians 5:26:

**Let us not become boastful [arrogant], challenging one another, envying one another.**
- Paul places this immediately after the command to "walk by the Spirit" (5:16) and the description of the fruit of the Spirit (5:22–23). In other words, verse 26 describes the opposite of living by grace.



-Once we realize that human effort plays no part in our salvation, nor in our Christian walk, we can let 'Christ's righteousness in us' transform us in our outward behavior.

2 Corinthians 3:17,18 <sup>17</sup> Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, *there* is liberty. <sup>18</sup> But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, **are being transformed into the same image** from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.

- The righteousness we have comes by our identification in Christ.
- The transformation occurs by beholding the "glory of the Lord".
- That transformation comes "from the Lord, the Spirit".
- Walking by means of the Spirit is the behavioral outworking of being transformed by the Spirit through beholding Christ.
- This may sound complicated, but Galatians simply describes it with the phrase, "walk by means of the Spirit".
- It's all of grace.** Therefore, there is no boasting, no competing, no envying one another. (5:26)

## Today's Passage – Galatians 6:3-5



<sup>3</sup> For if anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself.

<sup>4</sup> But each one must examine his own work, and then he will have *reason for* boasting in regard to himself alone, and not in regard to another.

<sup>5</sup> For each one will bear his own load.

-This passage can be seen in this simple outline:

**I. Think Humbly (vs 3)**

**II. Test Carefully (vs 4)**

**III. Take Responsibility (vs 5)**

-These three verses along with verses one and two, which Andrew dealt with last week, give an answer to the warning in 5:26:

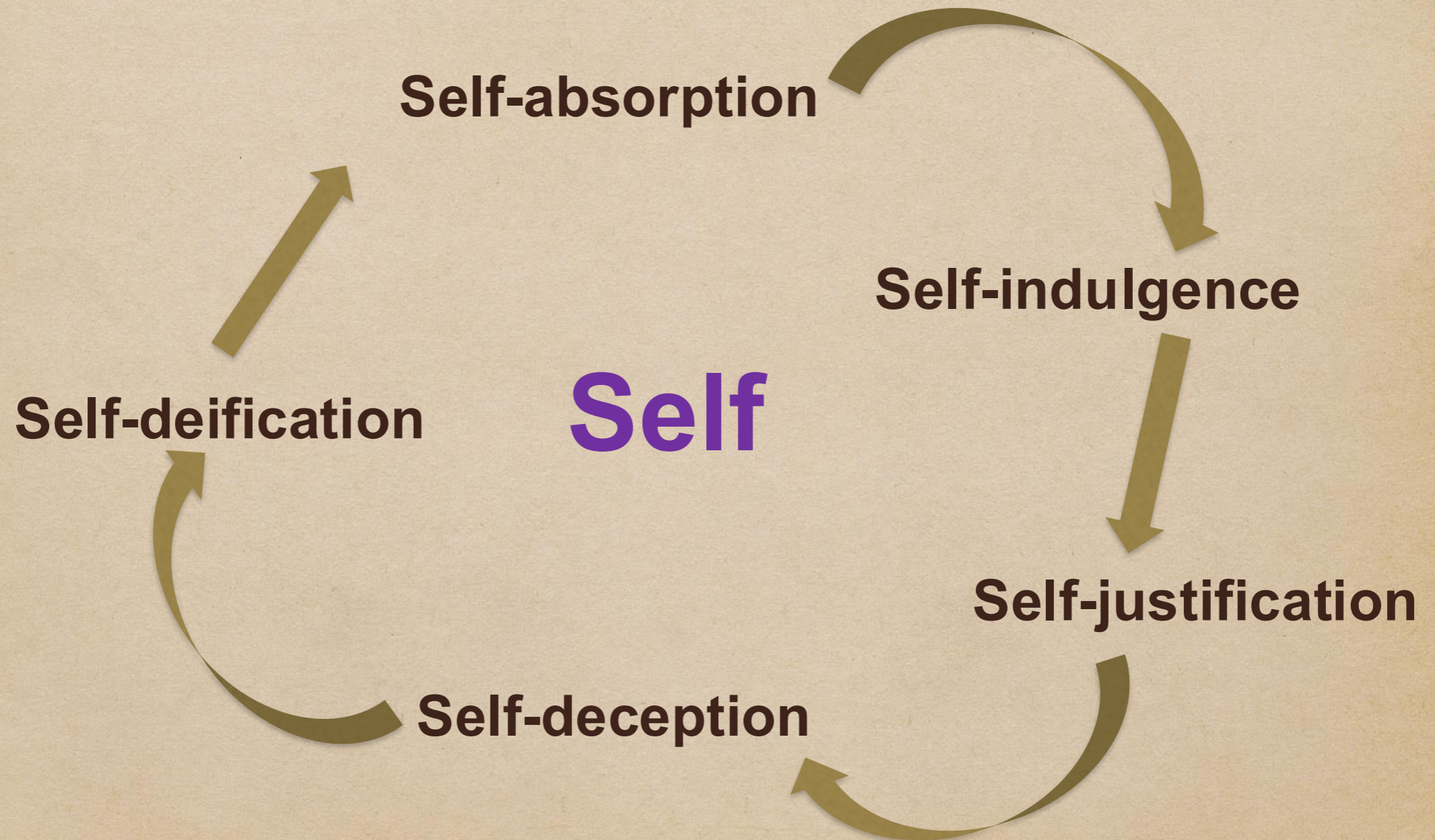
Let us not become boastful, challenging one another, envying one another.

-**boastful** (*κενόδοξοι - kenodoxoi*) kenos = empty, doxa = glory

**This word is best described as Arrogant**



# Arrogance Skills





## I. Think Humbly (vs 3)

For if anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself.

-This verse has already been addressed in the Arrogance Skills under self-deception.

-Verse three is the central point of 6:1-5. **“He deceives himself”**

-This can be seen when we view our passage as a Chiasm:

- A. Restore the fallen brother (vs1)
- B. Bear one another's burdens (vs2)
- C. Arrogance produces self-deception (vs3)**
- B. Examine your own work (vs4)
- A. Bear your own load (vs5)

- Galatians 5:26 introduces the problem of arrogance in the Christian community, and 6:3 exposes the self-deception that sustains it.

**This is a direct contradiction to God's grace**



## II. Test Carefully (vs 4)

But each one must examine his own work, and then he will have *reason for* boasting in regard to himself alone, and not in regard to another.

### A. Each must examine his own work (4a)

- Grace, not law is the basis for our evaluation.
- Under law, people compare themselves with others to justify their righteousness.
- Under grace, the believer examines whether his life reflects the Holy Spirit's work in us.
- Another way to say this; "Is Christ's life, in us, being reflected by our daily walk?"
- Are we walking by means of the Spirit, or by the flesh?

### B. Then he will have reason for boasting (4b)

- There is a difference between spiritual boasting and boasting in the flesh.



-Remember the word for boasting in 5:26?

-boastful (*κενόδοξοι - kenodoxoi*) empty-glory

-That boasting was **horizontal** – arrogance - self based boasting.

-The boasting we find in 6:4 is **vertical**.

-boasting (*καύχημα - kauchēma*) God produced boasting.  
Boasting in what God has produced in us.

-This boasting is directed toward God.

1 Cor 1:28-31 <sup>28</sup>and the base things of the world and the despised God has chosen, the things that are not, so that He may nullify the things that are, <sup>29</sup> so that no man may **boast** before God. <sup>30</sup> But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption, <sup>31</sup> so that, just as it is written, “Let him who **boasts, boast** in the Lord.”

Gal 6:14 But may it never be that I would boast, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. . .

## C. Not in regard to another (4c)



Boasting in regard to himself alone, and not in regard to another. (vs 4c)

- This boasting is vertical accountability, not horizontal competition.
- The phrase means: the believer's evaluation concerns his own evaluation before God, not his evaluation toward those around him.
- This brings us to our last point:

## III. Take Responsibility (vs 5)

For each one will bear his own load.

- There are three complementary principles in Galatians 6:1-5
  1. Our mutual responsibility to the Christian community. vs 1-2
  2. Our attitude toward self. vs 3-4
  3. Our personal responsibility before God. vs 5
- While verses one through four speaks of our responsibility to other believers and our attitude toward ourselves; verse five deals with our personal accountability before God.
  - That personal accountability to God is the load we bear.



-There is a difference between verse two, “**Bear one another’s burdens**” and verse five, “**bear his own load**”.

vs 2 -**Burdens** (*βάρος - baros*) a crushing weight, something too heavy to carry alone, a pressure or hardship needing help.

-It can refer to grief, suffering, or spiritual failure.

-The idea is for the stronger brother to help the weaker.

vs 5 -**Load** (*φορτίον - phortion*) carrying a pack, or responsibility.

-It often describes something we are assigned to carry.

- This is individual responsibility - what God has assigned to each believer.

-Burdens (*baros*) is horizontal toward others, while our load (*phortion*) is vertical toward God.

- For the believer, our responsibility is to walk in accordance with our position in Christ.

-This is seen in Chapter 5:16:

“**But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.**”

## Conclusions to last week and this week's Study Gal 5:26–6:5



-6:1-2 is our responsibility toward our fellow believers.

-6:3-4 is our responsibility towards ourselves.

-6:5 is our responsibility to God.

### A. Doctrinal Truth:

-Salvation and spiritual life originate entirely from God's grace.

**-Yet believers are called to live responsibly within that grace.**

### B. Practical Application - knowing that our spiritual life is all of God:

-Grace removes arrogance and pride (5:26)

-Grace produces restoration of others (6:1)

-Grace produces compassion for burdens (6:2)

-Grace produces humility in ourselves (6:3,4)

-Grace produces personal responsibility before God (6:5)

-Those who understand God's grace will restore others gently, carry one another's burdens compassionately, examine themselves honestly, and bear their own responsibility humbly before God.



**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ  
be with your spirit, brethren. Amen (6:18)**

**Did I happen to mention that the topic of  
today's passage is all about God's Grace?**

