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Andrew M. Davis

Sermon Notes

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Do Not Grow Weary in Doing Good: Your Salvation Depends on It!

Galatians 6:7-10

I. The Danger of Weariness in Doing Good

A. Amazing How Easy It Is to Grow Weary in Life

1. Astonishing scenery in Switzerland... but the native Swiss barely noticed it!
2. Balmy weather in southern California in March... but my friend Mike New barely noticed it!
3. A newlywed couple can scarcely keep their eyes off each other... but over the years, their passion dims
4. Someone buys a new car, maybe an expensive convertible... and can't wait every day to get in and drive it with the top down! But after a few months, and a few scratches and some car repairs, some stains on the carpet and some wear and tear... the enthusiasm dims
5. Part of life in this sin-cursed world

Ecclesiastes 1:2-8 Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity. ³ What does man gain by all the toil at which he toils under the sun? ⁴ A generation goes, and a generation comes, but the earth remains forever. ⁵ The sun rises, and the sun goes down, and hastens to the place where it rises. ⁶ The wind blows to the south and goes around to the north; around and around goes the wind, and on its circuits the wind returns. ⁷ All streams run to the sea, but the sea is not full; to the place where the streams flow, there they flow again. ⁸ All things are full of weariness; a man cannot utter it; the eye is not satisfied with seeing, nor the ear filled with hearing.

B. Even Sadder When It Comes to our Relationship with Christ

1. People begin in the Christian life, filled with zeal and energy... yearning to serve Christ, getting up early in the morning for quiet times, boldly sharing their faith... but years later, the zeal seems barely noticeable

2. People begin ministries or bible studies or new patterns of prayer or Scripture memorization with great enthusiasm... but after a short time, the energy has petered out and the commitment erodes

Jeremiah 2:2 "I remember the devotion of your youth, how as a bride you loved me and followed me through the desert, through a land not sown.

Revelation 2:4 Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken your first love.

How could it be that we would grow WEARY in the Christian life? Weary in doing good? Weary with prayer... weary with praising God... weary with thanking Christ for His death for us??? Weary of serving him?? Like the Jews of old:

Malachi 1:13 And you say, 'What a burden!' and you sniff at it contemptuously," says the LORD Almighty.

C. I Struggled with It a Year Ago... Thinking of a New Way to Preach the Resurrection on Easter Sunday!

1. What new things can I say about Christ being raised from the dead?
2. What new angle... what new "spin" could I put on the resurrection of Christ... and why would I need to?
3. The fact is, the tendency toward WEARINESS IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE is directly tied to the weakness of the flesh
4. Our minds wander, our hearts grow weary, and we lose interest

Isaiah 40:28-31 Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. ²⁹ He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. ³⁰ Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; ³¹ but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

D. Paul is Writing Here to Warn the Galatians Against Weariness in the Christian Life

Galatians 6:9 Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

He wants them to continue running the good race they had been running:

Galatians 5:7 You were running a good race. Who cut in on you and kept you from obeying the truth?

He wants them to continue battling the flesh and its lusts with the Spirit and its far greater desires:

Galatians 5:16 So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

In order to do that, he must convince the Galatians that they **MUST CONTINUE** to sow to the Spirit, and not in weariness to start sowing to the flesh

II. God Cannot Be Mocked: You Reap What You Sow

Galatians 6:7 Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows.

A. The Infinite Majesty of God... Transcendent and Untouched by Human Attacks

1. He reminds the Galatian Christians of the infinite supremacy of Almighty God
2. The God who rules on an infinitely high throne

Isaiah 40:22 He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth, and its people are like grasshoppers. He stretches out the heavens like a canopy, and spreads them out like a tent to live in.

Isaiah 40:15 Surely the nations are like a drop in a bucket; they are regarded as dust on the scales; he weighs the islands as though they were fine dust.

Deuteronomy 4:24 the LORD your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God.

1 Timothy 6:15-16 God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, ¹⁶ who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honor and might forever. Amen.

3. God is infinitely high and lifted up... sitting on the throne of the universe; completely untouched by any human attitudes or attacks

B. God Cannot Be Mocked... Despite a World of Sinners Trying to Do So!

1. Paul's assertion, "God cannot be mocked" is actually a little surprising... there is a whole world of rebellious human beings who constantly try to mock God
2. Satan's world system PUMPS OUT God-mocking propaganda... trying to deceive us that we can mock God and not suffer the consequences of His wrath and judgment

Galatians 6:7 Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows.

3. BUT Satan continues to use his puppets to try to deceive us... I could give many examples from popular culture
 - a. Talk show hosts like Bill Maher, who in discussing the “Noah” movie called God a “psychotic mass murderer” for drowning the entire world in a flood
 - b. Hollywood regularly pumps out movies that mock God and mock Jesus Christ
 - c. TV sitcoms frequently incorporate characters who blaspheme and taunt and mock God
 - d. When Actor Matthew McConaghey
 - e. An atheist group “Freedom from Religion Foundation” has a billboard campaign out mocking faith: It has a picture of a young man; in large gothic letters, it says “Dave 27:1... Lead with your heart. Not with the Bible.”; then a woman, “Jenn 13:1 Praying won’t help; doing will.” And this one: “No gods. No devils. No worries.”
 - f. Atheists in debating with Christians use mockery in the classroom or in mainstream media: likening God to pink unicorns or leprechauns
 - g. Ernest Hemingway, the world-renowned author, became famous for his mockery of God and his debauched life; he openly declared that his lifestyle proved that a person could do anything he wanted without paying the consequences. He considered the doctrine of the Bible to be outdated and completely useless to the modern man; even worse from his perspective, it got in the way of his pleasures. He wrote a mockery of the Lord’s Prayer: “Our nada (Spanish for “nothing”) who art in nada...” But in the end, Hemingway’s debauched life led to such complete despair that he put a bullet in his head.
 - h. History is full of people who have tried to mock God
4. So what does it mean “God CANNOT be mocked”
 - a. Start here: God is not HURT IN THE LEAST by the mockery... His “self-esteem” is not threatened by it; His position on His throne is every bit as secure... He doesn’t take it to heart or get depressed about it; He doesn’t change His plans or His judgments or His actions in the least because of human opinion

Deuteronomy 4:24 the LORD your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God.

1 Timothy 6:15-16 God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, ¹⁶ who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honor and might forever. Amen.

Illus. A young woman who was “angry at God”... we cannot do anything to hurt God!! Like the human race trying to send missiles to destroy the sun!!!

- b. Secondly: God cannot allow His glory to be impugned... He WILL repay the mocker; the blasphemy will come down on his own head in the end
- c. JUDGMENT DAY IS COMING... and though God seems to be silent, seems to be tolerant, seems to overlook everything, the fact is that NOTHING is overlooked

Deuteronomy 7:9-10 Know therefore that the LORD your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commands. ¹⁰ But those who hate him he will repay to their face by destruction; he will not be slow to repay to their face those who hate him.

Deuteronomy 32:40-42 I lift my hand to heaven and declare: As surely as I live forever, ⁴¹ when I sharpen my flashing sword and my hand grasps it in judgment, I will take vengeance on my adversaries and repay those who hate me. ⁴² I will make my arrows drunk with blood, while my sword devours flesh: the blood of the slain and the captives, the heads of the enemy leaders."

Deuteronomy 32:34-35 "Have I not kept this in reserve and sealed it in my vaults? ³⁵ It is mine to avenge; I will repay. In due time their foot will slip; their day of disaster is near and their doom rushes upon them."

Isaiah 2:12 The LORD Almighty has a day in store for all the proud and lofty, for all that is exalted (and they will be humbled)

Zephaniah 1:7 Be silent before the Sovereign LORD, for the day of the LORD is near.

Revelation 20:12 And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books.

C. The Center of Satan’s Effort to Deceive Us About This

1. Satan wants to HIDE the centerpiece of this verse: EVERY PERSON WILL REAP WHAT THEY HAVE SOWED
2. Satan wants to deceive us about this

3. Satan wants to tell people that it doesn't matter how they live, that God either doesn't exist or doesn't care what they do or is so loving that they will be forgiven or never suffer any consequences for their sins
4. Satan wants to tell us that because God's judgment doesn't come immediately, it won't actually fall at all

Psalm 50:21 These things you have done and I kept silent; you thought I was altogether like you.

Isaiah 57:11 Is it not because I have long been silent that you do not fear me?

5. These are SOUL-KILLING LIES!!! Paul pleads with the Galatians and us "BE NOT DECEIVED... God CANNOT BE MOCKED... a person will reap what they sow"

D. Fundamental Spiritual Law: You Reap What You Sow

1. The universe is governed by physical laws that modern science has been able to extract... things that always work a certain way
 - a. Newton gave us the laws of physics... $f=ma$; an object in motion tends to stay in motion, an object at rest tends to stay at rest
 - b. Chemists give us the laws of chemistry... what happens if you mix this chemical with this other chemical at a certain temperature... and it happens every time
 - c. Medical science studies the complexities of the human body and is able to diagnose illnesses by the laws of medicine and cure them
2. Galatians 6:7 gives us a fundamental spiritual law: YOU REAP WHAT YOU SOW
3. The pattern of your life leads to a guaranteed spiritual outcome
4. A law never questioned in the physical world... when we see a stand of corn, we know it's because corn seeds were planted; when we see a tulip spring up, it's because someone planted a tulip bulb
5. This spiritual law is taught in many places in Scripture

Job 4:8 those who plow evil and those who sow trouble reap it.

Proverbs 1:31-33 they will eat the fruit of their ways and be filled with the fruit of their schemes. ³² For the waywardness of the simple will kill them, and the complacency of fools will destroy them; ³³ but whoever listens to [wisdom] will live in safety and be at ease, without fear of harm.

***Psalm 7:15-16 He who digs a hole and scoops it out falls into the pit he has made. ¹⁶
The trouble he causes recoils on himself; his violence comes down on his own head.***

Hosea 8:7 "They sow the wind and reap the whirlwind

Or...

Hosea 10:12 Sow for yourselves righteousness, reap the fruit of unfailing love, and break up your unplowed ground; for it is time to seek the LORD, until he comes and showers righteousness on you.

6. Especially true in training children

- a. One English writer stated: "What strikes me more and more each day is the permanence of one's early life, the identity between youth and manhood. Every habit, good and bad, or those early years seems to have permanently affected my whole life. The battle is largely won or lost before it seems to begin."

- b. The shaping of a child's character begins quite early:

Proverbs 22:6 Train a child according to his own way, and when he is old he will not turn from it.

All of this would spell our destruction if it were not for the gospel of Jesus Christ!!!

In Christ, we have all our wicked harvest paid for by grace... more in a moment!!

After we've come to Christ, we are given the gift of the indwelling Spirit...

III. Two Ways to Live: Sowing to the Flesh or Sowing to the Spirit

Galatians 6:8 The one who sows to please his flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.

- A. Basic Principle: There are Two Ways to Live... and they Lead to Two Different Destinations
 1. The way of sowing to the flesh is the way of the non-Christian; but it can also temporarily describe a Christian when he or she sins
 2. The way of sowing to please the Spirit is the healthy Christian life
 3. The destination of the first is DESTRUCTION... the destination of the second is ETERNAL LIFE

4. So also the QUALITY of the life is described: the way of the flesh is CORRUPTION... that refers to the decaying of meat, like that smell of rancid meat on a hot August day; the contrast is ETERNAL LIFE, describing a quality of life that we can enjoy now

B. Review of “Flesh” and “Spirit” from Galatians 5

Galatians 5:16-18 So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law.

1. Flesh is the rebellious heart of man, wicked, selfish, yearning for autonomy
 - a. The “mind of the flesh” is hostile to God... hates God... will not submit to God
 - b. The flesh is INDWELLING SIN
2. The Spirit is the third person of the Trinity... Almighty God... dwelling in the heart of every true Christian
3. The flesh and the Spirit are at war with each other... bitter struggle for control
4. The acts of the flesh
5. The fruit of the Spirit

C. Two Ways to Live: Like Darkness and Light

Matthew 7:13-14 "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. ¹⁴ But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.

D. What It Means to “Sow to the Flesh”

1. Every time you indulge the sinful nature, you are sowing to the flesh
2. John Stott:

“Every time we allow our mind to harbor a grudge, nurse a grievance, entertain an impure fancy, wallow in self-pity, we are sowing to the flesh. Every time we linger in bad company whose insidious influence we know we cannot resist, every time we lie in bed when we ought to be up praying, every time we read pornographic literature, every time we take a risk that strains our self-control, we are sowing, sowing, sowing to the flesh.” [*The Message of Galatians*, p. 170]

E. What It Means to “Sow to the Spirit”

1. Every time you follow the prompting of the Spirit to worship Christ, singing a Christian song to the Lord, you are sowing to the Spirit
2. Every time you follow the prompting of the Spirit to intercede for a missionary or pray for an unreached people group, you are sowing to the Spirit.
3. Every time you follow the prompting of the Spirit to give generously to the church or to the poor and needy, you are sowing to the Spirit
4. Every time you follow the prompting of the Spirit to share the gospel with a coworker, you are sowing to the Spirit
5. As you “keep in step with the Spirit” moment by moment, every action, every attitude of the heart is sowing to the Spirit... deepening the patterns of Christlikeness in yourself

IV. Your Salvation Depends on Continuing to Do Good

Galatians 6:9 Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

- A. First: Praise God that in Christ, our Wicked Harvest is Paid for By Christ!!
- B. Understand that the Law of Sowing and Reaping Still Holds in Many Ways After We Come to Christ
- C. Certainly Our Sanctification, and Our Fruitfulness, and Our Daily Happiness Depend on Sowing to the Spirit and Not to the Flesh
- D. Key Idea: Our Salvation Depends on Continuing to Do Good
 1. A genuine Christian is one who has been transformed by the Spirit and is yearning to live a new life

Ezekiel 36:26-27 I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.

2. If you stop sowing to the Spirit and resume sowing to the flesh as a pattern of life, you are not a Christian!!

John Piper:

This is very controversial. Let it sink in. What is at stake in this text is eternal life; not merely sanctification, but also final salvation. Whether you go to heaven or whether you go to hell depends in some way on whether you grow weary in well-doing or not. The text is addressed

to the church. Listen carefully, and note how the thought moves from verse 8 to verse 9: "He who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption; but he who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. And let us not (therefore!) grow weary in well-doing, *for* in due season we shall reap, if we do not lose heart." You will reap eternal life, if you sow to the Spirit, that is, if you don't grow weary in well-doing. Because of texts like these I understand my role as a pastor-teacher to be not merely a means to your sanctification, but also a means to your salvation. This text is written to help bring the saints of Galatia to final salvation, eternal life. Therefore, a sermon from this text to the saints at [FBC] should also aim to help bring you to final salvation or eternal life.

3. Another key text:

Romans 2:6-10 *God "will give to each person according to what he has done." ⁷ To those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honor and immortality, he will give eternal life. ⁸ But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger. ⁹ There will be trouble and distress for every human being who does evil: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile; ¹⁰ but glory, honor and peace for everyone who does good: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile.*

4. The Christian life is a life of "persistence in doing good"... seeking GLORY, HONOR, and IMMORTALITY!!! This is what the Sovereign Spirit within us will do in your life

5. So, Christ will be able to look at the fruit of your life and determine what kind of tree you were

E. We MUST Persevere in the Christian Life!!

Colossians 1:21-23 *Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. ²² But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation-- ²³ if you continue in your faith, established and firm, not moved from the hope held out in the gospel.*

1 Corinthians 15:1-2 *Now, brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. ² By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.*

Matthew 24:13 *he who stands firm to the end will be saved.*

Hebrews 10:36-39 *You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised. ³⁷ For in just a very little while, "He who is coming will come and will not delay. ³⁸ But my righteous one will live by faith. And if he shrinks back, I will not be pleased with him." ³⁹ ¶ But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who believe and are saved.*

Perseverance in doing good works is NOT AN OPTION in the Christian life.

F. If We Are Living for the Flesh... We Are Not Christians

1. If a man here is indulging a secret habit in internet pornography, you are in ETERNAL DANGER... Jesus linked it to hell

Matthew 5:27-29 You have heard that it was said, 'Do not commit adultery.' ²⁸ But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹ If your right eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.

2. We can't indulge secret sin habits and have any assurance that we have eternal life
3. Now if you say that sounds legalistic, that's not true at all... I am not saying you are ON YOUR OWN to defeat this sin... the essence of legalism is SELF-EFFORT to achieve a moral standard...
4. I am saying that the true Christian will RAIL AGAINST that sin by the Spirit, taking it deadly seriously and fight it every day of his life... he will not merely settle into that addictive pattern, comforting himself with the fact "At least I'm saved"... How do you know you're saved except by the pattern of HOLINESS the Spirit works in your life??!
5. So it is with all sins... we do not merely accept bickering or gossiping or cheating or lying or laziness or sinful anger or unforgiveness... the Spirit drives us on a search and destroy mission every day

G. True Christians MUST Continue to Walk in Christ... AND

H. True Christians WILL Continue to Walk in Christ by the Spirit

V. Doing Good to All People... But Especially to Believers

Galatians 6:10 Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

A. A Wonderful Application: A Life RICH With Good Works

B. Two Great Commandments: Love God and Love Neighbor

1. This is a rich, full life of service to neighbor for the glory of God
2. True Christians are SOWING TO THE SPIRIT consistently, giving of themselves with their time, energy, money... with their spiritual gifts and their deeds of love

C. A Call to Benevolence Ministry

1. This is one of the great verses in the Bible on the importance of caring for the needs of others... especially the poor and needy
2. Paul says **AS WE HAVE OPPORTUNITY...** this is the basic understanding of TIME... time = opportunity to do good works

Ephesians 5:15-16 Pay careful attention, then, to how you walk-- not as unwise people but as wise-- ¹⁶redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

Ephesians 2:10 For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

3. God orchestrates situations in which you have resources and someone else has needs and they match together
4. We are surrounded by needs... and God can use us to meet those needs as we have opportunity!

D. The Priority: The Church... Brothers and Sisters in Christ

1. We must care for the family of God FIRST and FOREMOST
2. The unbelievers have limitless needs... it's a bottomless pit of need
3. We may well be like the Good Samaritan on the Jericho Road, seeing a total stranger in dire need and be led by the Spirit to help him
4. But we make it a systematic inquiry to be sure that there are no needy persons in this church

Acts 4:34-35 There were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales ³⁵ and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone as he had need.

Deacon benevolence fund is a great way to put this into practice!!!

1 John 3:17-18 If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? ¹⁸ Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.

5. Do we want to see Durham reached with the gospel? Do we want to see people walking to our church from the poorest part of this city? Do we want to see them become members of FBC? If so, they will come with far greater financial needs than we have... remember that God will call on us to care for them and bear their burdens:

Galatians 6:2 Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

VI. Application

A. Unbelievers Be Warned by Galatians 6:7... and Come to Christ! Only in Christ Can Our Bad Harvest Be Uprooted and a Good One Begun!!!

Galatians 6:7 ¶ Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap.

1. God cannot be mocked... JUDGMENT DAY IS COMING!!!!
2. Only by faith in Christ can you avoid reaping the wrath that you have been storing up day after day
3. The amazing beauty of the gospel is that God has the power to uproot and pay for our sinful harvests
4. "Jesus paid it all... all to him I owe; sin had left a crimson stain, he washed it white as snow!"
5. This is the beauty of the atoning work of Christ: years of sowing sins can be covered in an instant

B. Believers Be Warned by Galatians 6:7... Fight Your Sin by the Power of the Spirit

1. As we've said, the true Christian life is a life of warfare... flesh against the Spirit
2. SOW TO THE SPIRIT, not to the flesh!
3. Get up every day and feed your walk with Christ by a sweet, rich quiet time: Bible reading, prayer, worship, confession of sin... ready to walk by the Spirit
4. Then, seek moment-by-moment to follow the prompting of the Spirit all day long
5. As the flesh tempts you and draws you away, FEAR SIN... FEAR the journey it will take you, and fight the sin by the power of the Spirit

Romans 8:13-14 For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live, ¹⁴ because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

C. Understand the Deadly Power of Sin... we can't assume that God will protect us from all the results of our sins

1. Someone who uses a company computer JUST ONCE to look at internet porn may be forgiven and restored... but he may also LOSE HIS JOB
2. An unmarried Christian couple who allows their passions to overflow and they commit fornication may well be forgiven, but she might get pregnant
3. A Christian may be tempted to cut corners on his taxes and seek forgiveness from God... but the IRS may still expose it with an audit and a severe penalty
4. Deeper: we may have all kinds of bad habits that are different than these... but just as damaging to our walk with Christ: habits of pride in which you get angry when people slight you or jealousy when someone gets promoted over you; or habits of complaining when things don't go your way, or habits of bickering with your spouse... the law of sowing and reaping works there too... you are corrupting your character gradually, little by little
5. Especially beware in areas of weakness: sexual sin is such a weakness... men: fight for sexual purity in your minds and hearts; women as well, because the stats on internet porn are distressing for BOTH MEN AND WOMEN
6. Do not SOW TO THE FLESH... from the flesh, you will reap destruction!
7. Sow to the Spirit, and get richer and richer in your experience of eternal life here on earth... and then the gift of heaven afterward

D. Parents: Teach Your Children Galatians 6:7

1. So many habits are established early
2. The Law of Sowing and Reaping is a HUGE PART of parenting
3. Teach your children godly habits early on while they are young and their hearts are tender
4. BUT ALSO teach them grace... that our bad seeds do cause us grief but God in Christ is MIGHTY TO SAVE and GRACIOUS TO FORGIVE
5. Discipline (spankings, etc.) are childish, representational training... the real SPANKING in life for sin is this LAW OF SOWING AND REAPING...

E. Let Us Do Good While We Have Opportunity

1. Let us ask God to make us generous to the poor and needy
2. Let us give special attention to the members of this church
3. Let us YEARN for the day when we will have many members of FBC who come from the community and have needs so we can live out Galatians 6:10 more and more!