



Sermon Discussion Guide

August 9, 2026 - Riley Neal

Our Only Boast - Galatians 6:11–18

Discussion Starter

- Riley opened the sermon by sharing how a change in the refining process of aluminum drastically reversed the value of the metal. Have you ever experienced a significant shift in your value system, whether in relation to material items or your personal values?
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Reflection Questions

- What worldly value systems and sources of boasting are the most alluring to you? Why do these systems seem so attractive?
 - Take time as a group to define “performative spirituality” (see Galatians 6:12–13 for guidance). What dangers does it hold?
 - Read Galatians 5:13–26 (cf. Ephesians 4:17–5:2; Colossians 3:9–17). In contrast to the circumcision party, what traits characterize the “new creation” Paul describes in 5:15?
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Application Questions

- Vision Question: *We are a family of disciples on mission.* Consider the worldly value systems you discussed previously. How does the gospel strip away the allure of these systems and reverse our values and priorities as disciples?
- (Personal implications) When you feel pressure to prove your worth or guard your status, what does a worldly response usually look like for you? What would it look like to respond instead with peaceful confidence in the gospel?
- Can you think of a specific time when you embraced a new way of life because of the gospel and found it lifegiving? If so, would you be willing to share and encourage the group?
- (Communal implications) In what ways can living the Christian life in community guard us from the dangers of performative spirituality?

- Paul speaks of bearing the “marks of Jesus” (5:17). Where do you currently feel the cost of following Christ? Are there specific ways your group can support and encourage you?
- (Missional implications) How can performative spirituality and platforming damage our Christian witness, and how can we instead cultivate integrity as we live on mission?

This week’s guide written by: Katie Williamson

Tips for Group Leaders

- DO ask open-ended questions. DON'T ask questions where a short "right" answer ends the discussion.
- DO encourage mutual participation by every group member. DON'T feel the need to respond or weigh in after every contribution. Avoid monologuing. As the leader, your goal is to facilitate mutual discussion between all group members (Eph 4:15–16).
- DO ask follow-up questions: "What do you mean by that?" "Tell me more!" "Has anyone else experienced something similar (or different)?"
- DO feel free to pick and choose questions that are a good fit for your group. DON'T feel the need to get through every question, and don't worry if you spend most of your time on a few questions that generate a lot of good discussion.
- DO keep the main thing the main thing. Steer your conversation toward the main theme of the sermon and the biblical text. DON'T get sidetracked on less important matters, theological debates, etc. A rabbit trail might sometimes be worth pursuing—if group members are wrestling deeply with the implications of biblical truth for their lives. Otherwise, steer conversation back to the main topic.
- DO get into the text. It could be helpful to read over the passage together or ask questions directly related to the text. Help group members engage the text for themselves and respond to what they see there.
- DO revisit important moments from the sermon—a memorable story, an impactful quote, a convicting point of application. "Remember when pastor X talked about Y? What impression did that make on you?"
- DO allow space for reflection, silence, and thoughtful answers. DON'T feel that you need to jump in or ask a new question just because the group has been quiet for a few seconds. A good rule of thumb is to wait until the silence gets awkward, then count silently to ten before jumping in.
- DO bring discussions home to practical, concrete everyday life. DON'T let discussion and application stay in the abstract realm. Steer discussion toward *what does responding to this sermon look like for me?* If comments are vague or general, ask "what would that look like, practically?"