



## RIGHTEOUS BOASTING: THE CENTRALITY OF THE CROSS OF CHRIST

*Galatians 6:11-18*

### REVIEW

1. The Holy Spirit produces and maintains our new quality of life.

*Gal. 5:25* If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.

2. This new life expresses itself in our living for the benefit of others.

*Gal. 6:2* Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

*Gal. 6:10* So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

### NOTES:

### THE URGENCY AND AUTHENTICITY OF PAUL'S LETTER

*Gal. 6:11* See with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand.

### THOSE WHO BOAST IN THE FLESH SHUN ANY ASSOCIATION WITH THE CROSS OF JESUS

1. Their concern lies with their own worldly reputation because they fear persecution and suffering.

*Gal. 6:12a* It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh who would force you to be circumcised,

*Gal. 6:12b* and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ.

2. They practice hypocrisy concerning the law because they value themselves at the cost of others.

*Gal. 6:13a* For even those who are circumcised do not themselves keep the law,

*Gal. 6:13b* but they desire to have you circumcised that they may boast in your flesh.

*Gal. 5:14* For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

## THOSE WHO BOAST IN THE CROSS OF JESUS RECOGNIZE ITS CENTRALITY IN OUR NEW QUALITY OF LIFE

The cross is central to the Christian life because it is....

**1. ...the only source of our confidence.**

*Gal. 6:14a* But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,

**2. ...the instrument by which we die to the world and its systems.**

*Gal. 6:14b* by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

**3. ...the continual means to our new quality of life, as produced by the Spirit.**

*Gal. 6:15* For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation.

**4. ...the conduit of relational blessing from God.**

*Gal. 6:16* And as for all who walk by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God.

## PAUL'S FINAL APPEAL AND BENEDICTION

*Gal. 6:17* From now on let no one cause me trouble, for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus.

<sup>18</sup> *The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers. Amen.*

## REVIEW, DISCUSS, APPLY

1. In what ways are you tempted to distort the message of the cross as you talk about your faith? Why is it not possible to be faithful and popular simultaneously (Galatians 6:12)? What is at stake when we add to (or take away from) the true message of the gospel?
2. What grounds for boasting does the cross give us (Galatians 6:14)? How can this perspective on the cross help you in living out your faith from day to day?
3. Read Galatians (yes, the whole book) a few times this week. What have you learned and in what ways have you grown during our time in this series?
4. ((EXTRA CREDIT)) Looking ahead... Read Jonah once or twice through this week (it's only 4 chapters!). What encourages you? Confuses you?

### SONGS

Open The Eyes Of My Heart  
I Could Sing Of Your Love Forever  
Grace  
Firm Foundation (He Won't)  
Living Hope

### OUR WEBSITE

[altamontbiblechurch.com](http://altamontbiblechurch.com)

### 2026 BUDGET

Weekly Giving: \$6,131    Weekly Need: \$12,300  
YTD Giving: \$299,706    YTD Need: \$319,800  
Expansion Fund: \$403,110

### COMMUNICATION & GIVING

Envelopes for financial gifts, prayer requests, and communication to our church leadership are in the seatback pockets. Please pass your envelope to the ushers or deposit them in the offering box by the exit doors. Thank you!

### JOIN THE ABC FAMILY ROSTER

