

Helpful Resources

The Bible Project



Free Commentary



Sermon Big Idea

The cross frees us from the world and gives us a new life that extends far beyond it.

Read the Text

In your group, read the passage out loud, with each person reading a verse.

Head: Grasping the Text

Goal: To grasp the theological concepts and historical context of the text.

1. In 6:12–13, Paul accuses the false teachers of two motives: wanting to make a good impression and wanting to avoid persecution. How are these two motives connected?
2. What does it mean to boast in the cross? Consider the many forms of counterfeit Christianity that deceive people today. Where do you spot these teachings? What do they teach about the cross? What role should the cross play in a gospel presentation?
3. Paul speaks of a triple crucifixion. He explains how the world has been “crucified” to him and he to the world. What does this vivid and dramatic language mean practically? What has he died to? What is the world?
4. In 6:14, what does Paul mean by “new creation” in verse 15? How does this phrase connect to the argument he has been making throughout the whole letter? Do you think non-believers mainly perceive Christianity as simply a way of “being nice” instead of “becoming a new creation”? How would you describe what this means to a non-believer?

Heart: Grasping the Internal Transformation

Goal: Examine how the text reshapes our identity, affections, and motivations.

5. Take an honest look at your own life: in what possessions, talents, opportunities, or accomplishments are you most tempted to boast or find your identity? does the message of the cross reframe what's actually worth celebrating and living for? What might it look like for you to boast in the cross?
6. Paul didn't just preach the gospel — he *bled* for it. His scars were a kind of autobiography written on his body, proof that his message had cost him something real. Most of us won't bear physical marks for following Jesus. But the cost is no less real. It shows up in the relationships we prioritize, the ambitions we lay down, the way we spend our money, the countercultural choices we quietly make day after day.

Where in your life do you *hope* the marks of Jesus are becoming visible — to yourself and to others? And if you're honest, are there areas where you long for that evidence but haven't yet paid the cost? What might it look like to belong to him *visibly* in your specific, everyday world?

Hands: Grasping Your Next Step

Goal: To move from hearing the Word to living it out as a disciple.

7. Galatians begins and ends with grace (1:3 and 6:18). How does the grace Paul describes—costly, cross-shaped, scar-bearing—differ from a cheap, easy grace? How will you receive and rest in that grace this week?