

22 December 2024 – Questions to Discuss and Consider at Home or in Small Group
“Walking with the Spirit Inevitably Leads Us to Invest in the Things of the Spirit” -- Galatians 6:6-10

Questions to Answer from the Text:

1. Who are to share? With whom are they to share? What are they to share (v. 6)?
2. When Christians ignore or fail to share, what does Paul say can happen to them (v. 7a)?
3. What is the important principle that Paul wants the Galatian believers to understand if they fail to share (v. 7b)?
4. Why is this principle true (v. 8)?
5. Against what must Christians be on guard when sowing to the Spirit? Why (v. 9)?
6. What must Christians do when they have the opportunity (v. 10a)?
7. To whom do Christians have a special duty to do good by sharing (v. 10b)?

Questions for Reflection and Discussion:

8. There are certain groups of Christians who historically have argued that there should be no paid ministry in the Church. How would you answer the person who claims that the Bible does not teach that ministers of the Gospel should be paid?
9. Why did Paul refuse to take a salary or stipend from the churches in which he ministered?
10. How much time do you think a pastor should devote to sermon preparation for a sermon each Sunday?
11. How important do you consider a seminary education to be for a minister of the Gospel?

12. Do you think a pastor should know the original Biblical languages? Why or why not?
13. How much money should a pastor/teaching elder make?
14. Should a pastor/teaching elder ever retire from ministry?
15. What subject, issue, or book of the Bible would you advise the pastors/teaching elders in your church to teach and preach that you believe would help you the most in the coming year?
16. Besides financial compensation, what other things can God's people share with those who teach them the Word of God?
17. What determines how regularly you give financially to the ministry of the church to which you belong?
18. How is the principle of sowing and reaping unlike the so-called law of karma?
19. How do you decide whether or not to share with a stranger who is in need (e.g. someone panhandling on the street intersection)? With a family member who lost a significant amount of money on a bet? With a friend who lost his job?
20. Is Paul advocating favoritism by showing preference in helping a brother or sister in Christ before, or instead of, a non-believing neighbor or friend (see James 2:1, 9)? If not, how is this consistent with loving one's neighbor?