

Connect

For your final class to graduate from college, two professors offered the class.

One professor's final exam was offered one time only. The other professor allowed you to retake the final exam as many times as you needed.

How would you feel as you took the class in both cases, and how would your study habits be different?

Verses - Galatians 5:1-6 (NKJV)

1 Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free,
and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage. 2 Indeed I, Paul,
say to you that if you become circumcised, Christ will profit you
nothing. 3 And I testify again to every man who becomes circumcised
that he is a debtor to keep the whole law. 4 You have become estranged
from Christ, you who attempt to be justified by law; you have fallen
from grace. 5 For we through the Spirit eagerly wait for the hope of
righteousness by faith. 6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor
uncircumcision avails anything, but faith working through love.

Study

1. Paul exhorts the Galatian Christians to stand firmly on the one and only foundation of their salvation, Jesus Christ and the freedom He gives. (v.1)

   What happens when our trust in Christ alone fades, and then we also begin trusting in our works and law keeping? (vv.2-4; Romans 3:27; Ephesians 2:9)

2. Paul says (v.6) that what matters is only "faith working through love." How can he say this? Does anything else matter? Why do anything? (Mark 10:45; John 13:34)

🏋️ **APPLY:** Rather than trusting in rules and traditions, what benefits the believer and edifies the body of Christ? (vv.2, 4, 6; 2 Peter 3:16-18)

☕ **DISCUSS:** How are we to handle our own sinful mishaps? How does God see them? How should we see them when our brothers and sisters commit sin? (Matthew 18:21-22; Matthew 6:12)

Share

How would you handle a class you were teaching on the Bible? Would you allow retakes for the final exam or have students retake the entire class until they do? Which do you think is more encouraging and helpful for building them up? Why?

Grow

Minister to one another through sharing praise and specific prayer requests.

- Pray God will reveal to us how to stand in the freedom we have in Christ.
- Pray for we can accept, love, and encourage those who may be weaker in faith.