

Things That Are Hard To Do #1
“Confronting Sin in Others”
Galatians 5:19-6:5
August 19, 2018

Scripture Reading: Galatians 5:19-6:5

Series Setup & Introductory Remarks

1. 8/26 - Share the Gospel | Haggai 2:3-9
2. 9/2 - Engage in Politics | Acts 17:1-9
3. 9/9 - Heal From Church Hurt | 1 Peter 4:14-5:7
4. Today - Confront Sin in Others | Galatians 5:19-6:5

Introduction

- It can be hard to point out something trivial in someone else, how much harder is sin?
- Objection: isn't this the worst part of Christianity, blowing other people up?

Big Idea:

- Confronting sin in other Christians is really hard to do, but God asks us to do it so that we may grow more like him.
- ^{6:2} Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

Context: Galatians

1. Central verses: 1:6-7, 16
2. Confronts some sin in a very stern way: 3:1, 5:12
3. Wants gentle confrontation: 6:1

I. Gospel Foundations

1. Sin is obvious | 5:19-21
2. Godliness is communal | 5:22-23
3. The gospel frees us to confess and confront | 5:24-25
 - a. **Gospel:** not just a message of “behave and act right.” We belong long before we ever behave.

When you truly understand the gospel, you don't fear confession and you don't fear confrontation: giving or receiving it.

II. Bringing Correction

1. Weigh the seriousness | Galatians 5:19-21, Proverbs 19:11, 1 John 5:16-17
2. Trust the Spirit | 5:25
3. Live humbly | 5:26, 6:1, 3
4. Practice gentleness | 6:1
5. Goal of restoration | 6:1

III. Receiving Correction | vs. 4-5

- Charlotte Brontë - Ahab did not like Micaiah because he never prophesied good concerning him but evil; probably he liked the sycophant son of Chenaanah better; yet might Ahab have escaped a bloody death had he stopped his ears to flattery and opened them to faithful counsel.

Thanks For the Feedback Book

- Douglas Stone & Sheila Heen — Training managers how to *give* feedback...can be helpful. But if the receiver isn't willing or able to absorb the feedback, then there's only so far persistence or even skillful delivery can go. It doesn't matter how much authority or power a feedback giver has; the receivers are in control of what they do and don't let in, how they make sense of what they're hearing, and whether they choose to change. Pushing harder rarely opens the door to genuine learning. The focus should not be on teaching feedback givers to give. The focus...should be on feedback *receivers*, helping us all to become more skillful learners.

Receiving Feedback

1. Listen well to understand (about the content)
2. Don't reject the messenger (about the other person)
3. Own your response (about yourself)

Conclusion

- Action Item: Go to someone who loves you and has your best interest in mind and ask them this question: "what is one thing that I can take to Jesus for repentance, growth, and change?" Consider asking more than one person, but no more than three.

Benediction

2 Corinthians 13:11 — Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice. Aim for restoration, comfort one another, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.