

- Is Grace Risky? The Law of Sowing and Reaping -

Ice-Breaker:

- Share a time when you did the "right" thing (even though you may have wanted to do something else) and were greatly rewarded for doing so.

Discussion:

1. Read Galatians 6:3-4

- What does Paul mean when he says: "If anyone thinks they are something when they are not, they deceive themselves" ?
- How would you go about "testing your own actions"?
- Why do you think people compare themselves to others, and in what ways might this be harmful and/or beneficial?
- What does Paul mean by "taking pride in yourself"?
- Have you ever cut yourself slack (and made excuses for your behavior) by comparing yourself to someone who was doing worse than you? How did that play out in your life?

2. Read Galatians 6:5

- What does it mean to carry your own load?
- What is Paul's point in bringing this to light here?

3. Read Galatians 6:7

- How do we deceive ourselves into thinking God can be fooled (mocked)?
- In what ways have you seen people try to take advantage of God?
- Why is this law of sowing and reaping so important as it relates to God's character?
- How is this principle of sowing and reaping similar to other natural laws (like the law of gravity)?

4. Read I John 1:9

- Have you ever been taught that confession will somehow magically erase the *consequences* of your sin? Why might this be a dangerous teaching in light of Galatians 6:7?

Personal Application:

5. Read Revelation 22:12 and Matthew 10:24

- The law of sowing and reaping can work to our benefit. Think of one way you can sow something good this week in hopes of reaping something good.