**Galatians 6:9** *It Is Written*
Mike Colaw

**Galatians 6:9:** “And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.”

**Introduction:**

Did you know that everything is personal? Our recent survey, Next Steps cards, and feedback from Discover Trinity all reveal that the most impactful factor in life change at our church is personal invitations. There’s no close second. This isn’t about becoming "seeker sensitive" but about recognizing the importance of intentionally inviting friends, family, and neighbors to church. The data makes it clear: our members are key bridges to life change.

It’s not just us.

LifeWay Research found that up to 82% of unchurched people are likely to attend church if they receive a personal invitation from a friend, family member, or coworker. By comparison, less than 2% of people attend because of traditional advertising efforts like billboards, mailers, or social media campaigns. At Trinity, life change often starts with a simple, personal invitation. [[1]](#footnote-1) [[2]](#footnote-2) [[3]](#footnote-3) [[4]](#footnote-4)

Here’s the bottom line:

If you want to be part of transforming lives spiritually, don’t stop inviting others to walk with you on your spiritual journey.

Let’s take a moment and reflect: Who do I need to invite to church?

**Lectio:**
Galatians 6:9 (ESV): “And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.”

**Meditatio:**
*Historical Background:*

Early Christian communities often faced pressure, both from within and without, to conform either to legalism—loving the law at the expense of the person—or to antinomianism, a distorted form of grace that lets people define their own version of truth. Paul’s message in Galatians counters both extremes by emphasizing faith expressed through love that aligns with God’s ways. [[5]](#footnote-5)

Let me put it this way:

Love without law lets people build their own hell. Law without love pushes people into it.

Can you see it? Paul’s message is clear: You are fighting not only for your own spiritual victory but for the spiritual victories of others too.

Relationships are broken, and everything God does is focused on healing them. If you examine God’s laws closely, you’ll discover they are inherently relational. Every command God gives is designed to improve relationships—whether with Him, with others, or with the world around us. God’s laws and redemptive work all aim at restoring right relationships.

A way to sum up Galatians 6:1-9 might be this:

Do not stop leaning into God and leaning into others. In doing this, you fulfill the law of Christ and will eventually see God’s reward for your efforts.

**Illustration:**

But how do we stay encouraged while helping others honor God? There’s a crucial aspect we often overlook: God often strengthens us not with tactics or information, but through intimacy.

One of my children went through a season where they struggled with falling asleep. They had developed a fear that they might stop breathing in their sleep. Putting them to bed and keeping them there became extremely difficult. When a child is truly terrified, you can’t simply say, “Stop being scared.” Don’t we all wish we could just tell our emotions what to do?

One night, just as I was drifting off to sleep, this little one appeared beside my bed again in tears, terrified to fall asleep. I had already shared countless facts about how safe sleeping is and how they would certainly keep breathing—none of it helped. Finally, I said, “No problem, let’s just be together.” I laid down, placing the child’s head on my chest, and began to breathe slowly and confidently. Their erratic breathing and nervous energy calmed as we cuddled, and… peace. It wasn’t information that gave strength; it was intimacy.

Friends, your strength to persevere will come directly from your intimacy with God. Lean in close to Jesus and become the kind of person who can endure.

Let’s look at the verse one more time:

Galatians 6:9 (ESV): “And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.”

**Next Steps Cards:**

What personal spiritual battle do I need to continue applying God’s goodness to?

What community do I need to commit to bringing God’s goodness into?

1. Evangelism Ministries. “How to Invite People to Church (And Why You’ll Be Glad You Did).” Evangelism Ministries, Georgia Baptist Mission Board. Accessed August 20, 2024. https://evangelismga.com. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. United Methodist Church Discipleship Ministries. “What Brings People to Church? The Survey Says…” UMC Discipleship Ministries. December 14, 2011. https://www.umcdiscipleship.org. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Roach, David. “Americans Open to Invitations to Church.” Baptist Press. Accessed August 20, 2024. https://www.baptistpress.com. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Christian Post. “Americans Most Likely to Try Out Church through Family, Friends.” The Christian Post. Accessed August 20, 2024. https://www.christianpost.com. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Longenecker, Richard N. Galatians. Word Biblical Commentary. Zondervan, 1990. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)