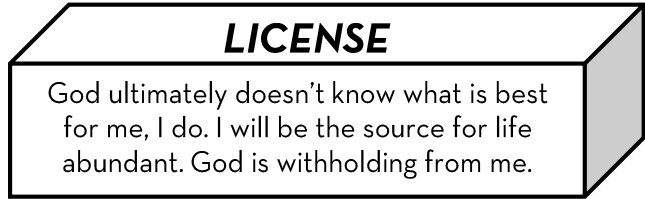
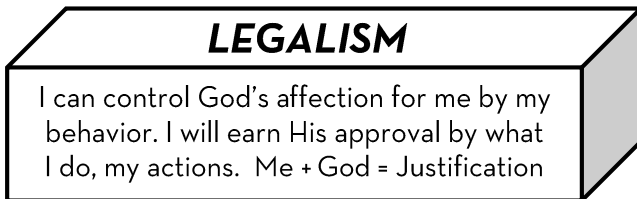


Boasting in the Cross Galatians 6:11-18

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly." John 10:10

The gospel of freedom calls us to resist living an **OUTSIDE-OUT** life. Galatians 6:11-13

"Those who desire to make a good showing in the flesh try to compel you to be circumcised, simply so that they will not be persecuted for the cross of Christ." Galatians 6:12



A CASE STUDY: The Garden

*The serpent said to the woman, "You surely will not die! For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and **you will be like God**, knowing good and evil." When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make one wise, she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and **they sewed fig leaves together** and made themselves loin coverings. Genesis 3:4-7*

The fig leaves of an **OUTSIDE OUT** kind of life:

It's our appearance, acceptance and approval that leads to our perfection, performance, and pleasing

The gospel of freedom calls us to live an **INSIDE-OUT** life. Galatians 6:14-18

*"But may it never be that I would **boast**, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world."* Galatians 6:14

There is a kind of boasting that leads to defeat.

The Philistine said to David, "Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?" And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. The Philistine also said to David, "Come to me, and I will give your flesh to the birds of the sky and the beasts of the field." 1 Samuel 17:43-44

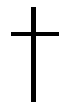
There is a kind of boasting that leads to freedom.

Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword, a spear, and a javelin, but I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have taunted." 1 Samuel 17:45

The gospel of freedom reaches far beyond our moment of salvation.

When He had reclined at the table with them, He took the bread and blessed it, and breaking it, He began giving it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized Him; and He vanished from their sight. They said to one another, "Were not our hearts burning within us while He was speaking to us on the road, while He was explaining the Scriptures to us?" Luke 24:30-32

LEGALISM



LICENSE

LIFE
LIBERTY
LORDSHIP
LOVE

LifeGroup Discussion

לָלַל (ha.lal) καυχάομαι (kauchaomai) “to boast” “to give praise”: to boast, brag about; to rejoice in, glory in; this can refer to proper or improper boasting, depending on the object of the boast

We may not shout it from the ancient battlefields like many of the Biblical narratives show, but truly the things we boast in are reflected in how we live our lives and in the simple, and assuming words we speak. Read through these columns of passages specifically dealing with boasting, meaning, “This is what I’m counting on for my victory.”

Look through the many examples of what was valued and held as important for the Biblical characters. Now, modernize it. What is your boasting found in today?

Misguided boasting from Scripture.

- And the king of Israel answered, “Tell him, ‘Let not him who straps on his armor **boast** himself as he who takes it off.’” 1 Kings 20:11
- Some **boast** in chariots and some in horses, but we will boast in the name of the Lord, our God. Psalm 20:7
- Do not **boast** about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring. Proverbs 27:1
- You who **boast** in the law dishonor God by breaking the law. Romans 2:23
- For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to **boast** about, but not before God. Romans 4:2
- So let no one **boast** in men. For all things are yours... 1 Corinthians 3:21
- We are not commending ourselves to you again but giving you cause to **boast** about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast about outward appearance and not about what is in the heart. 2 Corinthians 5:12
- As it is, you **boast** in your arrogance. All such **boasting** is evil. James 4:16

Finally, bring it all back to the cross. Does your life truly reflect your belief that everything rides on the cross, not just for your salvation, but for your everyday life?

Boasting in the Lord.

- Thus says the Lord: “Let not the wise man **boast** in his wisdom, let not the mighty man **boast** in his might, let not the rich man **boast** in his riches, but let him who **boasts** **boast** in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the Lord who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth.” Jeremiah 9:23-24
- Some **boast** in chariots and some in horses, but we will boast in the name of the Lord, our God. Psalm 20:7
- “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will **boast** all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. 2 Corinthians 12:9
- For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, *it is* the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may **boast**. Ephesians 2:8-9
- But he who **boasts** is to **boast** in the Lord. For it is not he who commends himself that is approved, but he whom the Lord commends. 2 Corinthians 10:17-18

Next Steps

1. **Join a LifeGroup to connect with others and grow together in your faith.** LifeGroups are the primary place, beyond Sunday worship, where we actively engage in the life and purpose of our church. To learn more about joining a life group, you can select “Join a LifeGroup” on The Card (in the back of the seat rack), or contact Calvary’s Pastor of LifeGroups, Robert Carter at rcarter@calvarylife.org, or visit calvarylife.org/lifegroups
2. **Have you trusted in Jesus as your Savior? Take the next step and be baptized!** Come learn more at a Baptism Class, today at 9:00 or 11:00 am in the Prayer Room (Worship Center NW Corner). Read this too late to attend the class? Come to one of the Prayer Points after the message and we’ll help you take this next step. Find details and directions for tonight’s Beach Baptisms at calvarylife.org/baptism