Wednesday, October 24, 2018
Wednesday night couple's groups
Week 10
"From this day forward"
Small group questions

Main Idea:

Marriage is a covenant and not a contract. It is a permanent relationship with no end date. No matter how tough things might become, divorce should not an option.

- What's one idea from the message that really stood out to you? Why did this idea grab your attention?
- Examine your marriage. Are you pleased with your harvest or do you need to make some changes?
- What are some specific things you've learned from this series that you are going to do to ensure that you and your spouse never give up in your marriage?

Read and discuss Galatians 6:7-9

Paul shares a principle of cause and effect. A grave warning states that **God cannot be mocked**. Why? Because a man **reaps what he sows**. *Mocked* means "to turn up one's nose" or "treat with contempt." One who turns up his nose at God and sneers at him doesn't change this immutable "law of the harvest." Disregarding God's counsel, we will always suffer. Each of us by our thoughts, attitudes, and actions is constantly planting for a future reaping. Time may pass before the crop ripens, but the harvest is inevitable. Consider the harvest!

In this application of the harvest principle, by giving (sowing) to our spiritual leaders, we can expect to reap a spiritual harvest of abundant ministry. In contrast, a Christian who fails to support his spiritual leaders is sneering at God and can expect discipline. Such a selfish Christian spends his resources to gratify his own personal desires. In contrast, the Christian who shares his finances adds interest to the capital of **eternal life**. In a broader application of this principle, remember there are no miracle crops. You reap spiritually, relationally, mentally, and physically in direct relation to what you plant. It is foolish to think that you can live irresponsibly and not suffer damaging consequences. Yet to the generous, Paul shares an encouraging promise: **Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up**. It is discouraging to continue to do good and not see a reward. Paul challenges the

Galatians to keep on giving because God promises to reward those who are faithful in the long run.¹

- Describe a time when you encountered a tough time in your marriage? How did you get through it and how did that experience affect your marriage?
- How have you seen divorce affect your family or the families of those you know?

ACTION STEPS:

• What's one thing you will do this week as a result of something you learned from this message?

Take steps to ensure you never give up in your marriage by reading and talking over the following Bible passages this week.

- Galatians 6:1-10
- Genesis 2:4-25
- Matthew 5:31-32
- 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

¹ Anders, M. (1999). <u>Galatians-Colossians</u> (Vol. 8, pp. 79-80). Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Publishers.