

HERE'S THE  
DEAL

*College Group Discussion Guide*



## PREPARATION

### ■ STUDY

Spend the week studying Galatians 6:1–10.

### ■ LANDING POINT

The direction I am going (what I'm sowing) will determine my destination (what I reap).

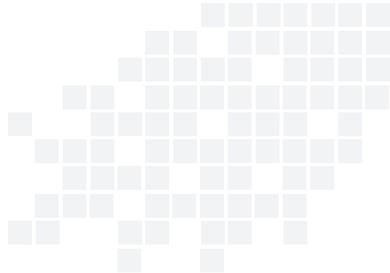


## INTRODUCTION

*As your group time begins, use this section to introduce the topic of discussion.*

Many people today find themselves where they don't want to be and wonder how in the world they got there. How is it that people end up in mountains of debt, addictions, life-shattering affairs or criminal activity that puts them behind bars? Because somewhere along the way they decided to take one small step. At the time it didn't seem like that big of a deal. The next step didn't seem all that significant either. However, each step was going in the wrong direction, and despite countless warning signs to stop, they kept going. Now they have to suffer painful and life-altering consequences.

This week your group will discuss Paul's warning to the Galatians: that you reap what you sow. This is more than Karma. This is a promise from God! The direction you're going today (what you're sowing) will determine your destination in the future (what you reap), for better or worse.



## THE HARVEST PRINCIPLE

In Galatians 6:7–8, Paul uses a farming metaphor to illustrate what we call the harvest principle. He warns the Galatians: “Don’t be a fool. Don’t mock God by thinking you can get around the principle that you reap what you sow” (6:7). The picture Paul gives them is a harvest field with two kinds of ground: the flesh and the Spirit. Each person chooses to sow seeds in one of these grounds with their thoughts and actions. This results in a harvest of either destruction or eternal life.

## THE PRINCIPLE OF THE PATH

The harvest principle tells us that our choices always come with consequences, whether good or bad. Every choice is a step you make that puts you on a path leading to a destination. The principle of the path is that direction determines destination.

The Bible tells us there are two paths to walk in life, the wise or the foolish one. The Book of Proverbs talks about this a lot, especially in the first nine chapters. Whichever path you choose comes with consequences 100% of the time, whether good or bad.

If you’re not walking the wise path in life, you need to change direction and walk a different path. That can start immediately with one wise step in the right direction.

## CHANGE AND GROWTH

The Christian life is about change and growth. It’s about transforming your life to look more like Jesus (2 Corinthians 3:18). The gospel makes real change and growth possible. But ultimately, this is God’s work—not yours. It’s God Spirit working in you to do what you can’t through your own strength and willpower.

Jesus enables you to change direction away from sin and towards God. Paul tells us in Romans 8:1–17 that Jesus has set you free from sin’s enslaving power to live by the Spirit instead of the flesh. He has set you free to live differently. God produces change and growth in you when you yield to His Spirit instead of the flesh.



## QUESTIONS

Answer the following questions as a group. Remember to be respectful by not talking down to or over others.

**READ:** Galatians 6:1-10. How do we mock God when we think the harvest principle doesn't apply to us?

Q: Recall a time when a someone's warning helped you from making a foolish decision.

Q: Describe the differences between the wise and foolish paths available to college students.

Q: Be vulnerable and share one area in life where you need to change direction.

Q: Why is it important to discuss these principles at this stage in your life? How could it benefit you? .

End in prayer.