



What's Love Got To Do With It? (Galatians 5)
Decluttering Christianity sermon series
By Pastor David Hillis, 05.26.19

BIG IDEA: Jesus loved us enough to buy our freedom with His life, so that our new lives could be free to love like Christ.

- **What's love got to do with my being free from my bad old self?**
 ([Colossians 3:3,5a](#); [Ephesians 5:1-2](#); [Galatians 2:20, 5:24](#); [Romans 6:4,6](#))
 - **Love is *inspired* by the Holy Spirit, not me.**
 ([Colossians 3:12-15](#); [2 Corinthians 3:17-18](#); [Galatians 5:16-23](#))
 - The fruit of the spirit grows in those that submit to the work of the Holy Spirit.
 - **Love is *defined* as being self-sacrificing, the opposite of selfish.**
 ([1 Corinthians 13:5](#); [Galatians 5:24](#); [John 3:16, 15:13](#); [1 John 3:16-18](#))
 - Love is not self-seeking; we must crucify the selfish part of ourselves by nailing our own passions and desires to the cross.
 - **Love is *expressed* in the way I serve others.**
 ([Galatians 5:13-15](#); [Hebrews 6:10](#); [John 13:1-17](#); [1 John 3:17-18](#))
 - Christ set you free from sin and the law so that you could love and serve others.
- **What part do you play?**
 - **Acknowledge.**
 ([1 Corinthians 15:10](#); [Romans 7:18-19, 8:5-11,26-27](#))
 - Acknowledge it starts with God.
 - **Abide.**
 ([Colossians 3:1-3](#); [John 15:1-17](#); [Romans 8:5](#); [1 John 2:24-28](#))
 - Stay close to God and pursue him.

- **Act.**
([Colossians 1:29](#); [1 Corinthians 15:10](#), [Galatians 5:24-25](#))
 - Cooperate with the Holy Spirit by saying “yes” to his promptings.
- **Appreciate.**
([Psalm 118:28–29](#); [2 Corinthians 2:14-16](#); [1 Thessalonians 5:18](#); [James 1:2-4](#))
 - Even when you do not see the results you want, you thank God because you trust him.

NEXT STEP: In what areas of your life do you find you are digging up and dragging around the old, dead version of you? How can you change that (how do you need to acknowledge, abide, act, appreciate)?

FOR MY PERSONAL TIME WITH GOD THIS WEEK:

1. This week, in part 5 of *Decluttering Christianity*, Pastor Dave taught from [Galatians 5](#). As you read it carefully and prayerfully, ask God to show you any ways you might have been like the Galatians. What puzzles you? What makes you uncomfortable? What resonates with you that you need to take some time to talk to God about more? Do you believe you are led by the Spirit ([5:18](#))? Do you follow your own course, or really lean on God to guide you?
2. In Galatians 5 we learn that Christ bought our freedom so we could stay free, and that we need to nail our old passions and desires and crucify them rather than digging up and dragging around the old version of ourselves. This is a work inspired by the Holy Spirit, yet defined and expressed through self-sacrifice and love. What have you found makes you most free to sacrificially love like Christ in your life? What makes it the hardest? How can you use the 4 “As” Pastor Dave talked about today to address it?
3. With each section of the sermon notes above (how love is inspired, defined and expressed), there are some Scripture references. Look those up and consider them today. With the 4 As (the part we play in our becoming more like Christ), there are Scripture references above as well for you to read and consider. As you read them, consider how the Holy Spirit might be speaking to you through them.
4. Was it a surprise in the message how [Colossians 3:12-15](#) was similar and different to the fruit of the Spirit listed in [Galatians 5:22-23](#)? As you read these, form one merged list of all the Godlike qualities there, and put them under 3 lists: ones I seldom, sometimes, and often struggle with. Allow the results to show you how the Holy Spirit might want to work in your life in the months ahead.
5. To come to a good grasp of what this book teaches, consider reading Galatians each week of the series in a different Bible translation (the [New Living Translation](#), [English Standard Version](#), [Easy-to-Read Version](#), [New Century Version](#) and the [Message](#) are good options). As you read, pay attention to Paul’s words and consider his motivations behind them.

ONLINE RESOURCES:

- Pastor Dave referenced the movie *The Sixth Sense* starring Bruce Willis and Haley Joel Osment. See a film [preview trailer](#), or find on what services it is available to [watch it now](#).