

Growing in Grace: How to Treat Others, Sow Good Seeds, and Never Give Up

Grace can be hard to receive. It seems too good to be true. But every good thing comes from God, and learning to grow in that grace changes how we treat people, how we give, and how we live day to day. Here is a look at what it means to practically walk out your faith in the way you treat others and the seeds you sow.

What Should Christians Do When Someone Stumbles in Their Faith?

Every believer will eventually encounter a brother or sister who is struggling. The question is: what is our attitude toward them?

It is easy to hold other Christians to a high standard and feel disappointed when they fall short. But there is an important distinction to make. There is a big difference between someone who sins willfully and someone who simply stumbles.

Someone who stumbles needs to be restored. Someone who is willfully walking away needs to be warned. Both require courage and love, but the response looks different.

"Brethren, if anyone is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a Spirit of gentleness, each one looking to yourself so that you too will not be tempted. Bear one another's burdens and thereby fulfill the law of Christ." - Galatians 6:1-2

The goal is always restoration. Our job is to pick people up, not put them down.

What Does the Bible Say About Judging Others?

Judging others is something Christians can fall into quickly, especially toward those who are weaker in their faith. But Scripture is clear about the consequences.

"Do not judge so that you will not be judged. For in the way you judge, you will be judged. And by your standard of measure, it will be measured to you. Why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye but do not notice the log that is in your own eye?" - Matthew 7:1-3

When we judge others, we open a door for judgment to come back on us. The measure we use matters. Judge harshly, and that same harshness returns. Judgment belongs to God, not to us.

Is There a Difference Between Judging and Using Wisdom?

Yes. Discerning a dangerous situation, like keeping your children away from a harmful environment, is not the same as judging the people in it. We can make wise decisions without condemning the person. Those people still need the gospel, and the power of God can set them free.

When we judge someone, we are essentially declaring their worth. That is not our role. Our role is to love them, preach the gospel, and trust God with the rest.

How Should We Carry Our Own Responsibilities as Christians?

There is a difference in Galatians 6 between bearing someone else's heavy burden and carrying your own load. Both matter.

"For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. But each one must examine his own work." - Galatians 6:3-4

Bearing another's burden refers to helping someone through an overwhelming weight they cannot carry alone. Carrying your own load refers to the personal responsibilities every believer must take on for themselves. Things like prayer, reading the Word, and staying connected with other believers. Nobody can do those things for you.

Self-examination is also part of this. Are you walking in love toward others? Are you letting stress or pressure make you difficult to be around? Checking yourself regularly keeps you on track.

Why Does Generosity Matter Spiritually?

Giving is not just a financial act. It is a spiritual one. Where we put our money often reveals where our heart is.

"The one who is taught the word is to share all good things with the one who teaches him." - Galatians 6:6

Generosity connects our heart to what we value. Stinginess, on the other hand, closes us off from receiving deeper spiritual things. It is not that money buys spirituality. It is that a generous heart is a trusting heart, and trusting God is at the core of spiritual growth.

Giving regularly, giving generously, and giving joyfully are three practices that move us into what could be called God's economy, where the law of sowing and reaping is in full effect.

What Is the Law of Sowing and Reaping?

"Do not be deceived. God is not mocked. For whatever a man sows, this he will also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption. But the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life." - Galatians 6:7-8

This is one of the most practical spiritual laws in Scripture. What you sow is what you grow. You cannot sow into carnal things all week and expect a spiritual harvest on Sunday.

Do Our Words Count as Seeds?

Absolutely. Words carry a message. They are containers. Complaining, negativity, and harsh words are seeds that produce a harvest you probably do not want. If you have been sowing bad seeds with your words, the answer is to repent, ask God to wash those words away, and start speaking what His promises say instead.

The sower decides the harvest. God gives the increase. You choose the seed.

What Do You Do When You Feel Like Giving Up on Doing Good?

"Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap if we do not grow weary. So then, while we have opportunity, let us also do good to all people and especially those who are the household of faith." - Galatians 6:9-10

Not every harvest is immediate. Some things take months. Some take years. But the instruction is clear: do not give up short of your harvest.

If you have an opportunity to help someone and it is within your power to do so, take it. There is a blessing on the other side of doing good. And when people take advantage of your generosity, guard your heart. Keep your motivation focused on serving God, not on what you get in return. That is what keeps bitterness from taking root.

Life Application

This week, pay attention to the seeds you are sowing. Look at your words, your attitude toward struggling believers, and your willingness to give and serve without expecting immediate results. Choose one area where you have been sowing the wrong kind of seed and intentionally replace it with something better. Speak a word of encouragement instead of criticism. Extend grace to someone who has stumbled. Give generously in an area where fear has held you back.

Ask yourself these questions:

- Is there someone in my life I have been judging rather than trying to restore?
- What kinds of seeds am I sowing with my words and actions on a daily basis?
- Am I carrying my own spiritual responsibilities, or am I expecting others to do it for me?
- Where has fear or stinginess kept me from trusting God with my giving?
- Have I grown weary in doing good, and if so, what would it look like to keep going?

Grow in grace. Honor the Lord. Serve His people. That is what it looks like to live out the gospel every single day.