

## **SCCC – AVOIDING CARNALITY**

### **S – Scriptures**

“If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.”

Galatians 5: 15

### **C – Consideration**

Paul spent four chapters of this Epistle, explaining the true gospel, and exhorting the Galatians to come back to sound doctrine; for some false teachers had brought a theological confusion among these Christians. Once they misunderstood the gospel, their behavior was affected as well, “You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” The apostle then brought up the terrible disaster that comes when the old nature arises and no longer submits to the Spirit of God, “Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking, and envying each other.” He reminded the believers, He quoted in verse fifteen their spiritual condition: biting, devouring, and in danger of destroying one another. Reminding them of what Cain did to his brother: after being rebuked by the Lord because of his sinful behavior, instead of repentance, he murdered Abel. Paul reminded the Galatians that “Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.”

### **C – Commitment**

When I read my chosen verse, I could see how blind and foolish we can become. No wonder there have been so many divisions in churches for centuries. Once Jesus told the Pharisees that even Satan has a united army, otherwise, his kingdom would fall apart, “And if Satan cast out Satan, he is divided against himself; how shall then his kingdom stand?” The sinful behaviors of the Galatians are still a reality among believers, including myself. Instead of love and serving our neighbor in humility, we release our flesh from the cross and our ego starts to rule. Suddenly selfishness, pride, lust, hatred, and other destructive evils appear and we have to face this terrible truth that we are still alive, instead of being dead, to sin; therefore Christ could live in us. That is the battle every Christian faces, “For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want.” Scriptures, then gives us the remedy to deal with this malady, “So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.” I must go back to the cross, and nail my ego there and allow the Holy Spirit to guide me. I should honestly check out what type of fruit is in my life, and, confess, repent, and move on as a representative of Christ on this earth.

### **C – Call**

My Heavenly Father, thanks for Your word that brings light and shows the reality of the sinful nature that is still at work in me. How many times I have grieved the Holy Spirit and acted in the flesh. Forgive me for these iniquities such as envy, pride, anger, and other sinful acts I have done. I trust in Your word that guarantees me if I confess, I am forgiven. The blood of Jesus has purified me and nullified every sin I have done. Lord, help me to live a life that pleases you, to be a faithful servant of my Lord Jesus Christ. In His name, I pray. Amen.