

Sermon Discussion - 26 June 2022

Read Galatians 6:1-10

Dig Deeper

In v. 1, Paul deals with a hypothetical case of a Christian who is **caught in a sin**, or better, is “caught by a sin.” The thought is that of someone running from sin but sin, being faster, overtakes and catches him.

As Christians, we should **restore** the one caught in sin (a word used in secular Greek for setting broken bones and in the NT for mending fishing nets). The task of restoration is not to be done by just anyone, but by those who are **spiritual**. This is a reference to believers who walk by the Spirit (5:16, 25). In addition, this delicate work must be done **gently** (5:22) and with the awareness that no one is immune from falling into sin (*see 1 Corinthians 10:12*).

Paul reminds the Galatians (v. 2) that followers of Christ help one another with heavy **burdens**. Though the principle would apply to all burdens, the context has special reference to the heavy and oppressive weight of temptation and spiritual failure.

This does not contradict v. 5 because the reference in v. 2 is to heavy, crushing, loads...more than a man could carry without help. In v. 5, a different Greek word is used to designate the pack usually carried by a marching soldier. It is the **load** Jesus assigns to His followers (*see Matthew 11:30*). There are certain Christian responsibilities or burdens each believer must bear which cannot be shared with others. Jesus assured His disciples that such burdens were light.

As Paul concludes his letter to the church in Galatia, he urges them **not to grow weary of doing good**...to keep living in a way that is consistent with what they have been taught and believe about Jesus. The original word for “weary” can be defined as “*losing heart*.”

Paul reminds the church of Galatia that while they’ll eventually reap what they sow, they may not experience the outcome of their efforts until the **due season**. Continuing to pour effort into a work without instant results can be disheartening, but the reality is that our reward is rarely immediate.

1. How do you feel about those you attend church with? Outside of those in your immediate Community Group or close friends, how well do you know them?
2. Read Galatians 6:1-4. Paul encourages those who are “spiritual” to serve those struggling with sin. What does Paul specifically call the “spiritual” to do? Why is this important? Consider what Paul says in Romans 2:4.
3. Reread verse 2. Paul says that by bearing one another’s burdens, we fulfil the law of Christ. What is the law of Christ? To go deeper read John 13:34.

4. Are you getting tired of doing good (v. 9)? If so how might you find fresh strength?
5. Are you looking for an opportunity to bless and serve others? In what ways might you do that today?

Application & Prayer

As we approach the end of our study in Galatians, remember that Paul was writing to members of a church just like us. Throughout His letter, he used the Greek word *adelphoi*, which translates to “brothers and sisters.”

How does this familial language help to shape your perception of the church and other believers?

Why would Paul want us to view the people we go to church with as our family members?

Consider how this perspective might impact how you interact with fellow believers going forward.