

## Sermon Discussion

26 April 2020

Galatians 6:1-5 (read)

*Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. 2 Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ. 3 For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. 4 But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbour. 5 For each will have to bear his own load.*

### Dig Deeper

To bear one another's burdens is the supreme imitation of Jesus, the ultimate burden-bearer (see *Romans 15:1-3*). Though Paul insists that the Galatians are free from obeying Jewish ceremonial laws (see *2:11-12*), this does not mean they are free from all of God's moral requirements. The "law of Christ" in a broad sense means the entire body of ethical teaching that Jesus gave and endorsed, but in a specific sense here it probably refers to the command to love one's neighbor as oneself, which, if followed fully, will result in obeying the rest of God's moral law.

1. What is a significant assumption behind Paul's comments in verse 1?
2. This is the second time Paul has mentioned gentleness in 5 verses (see 5:22-25). In both cases, what does he connect gentleness to?
3. In verse 2, Paul encourages us to "bear one another's burdens." Yet in verse 5, he says everybody has to bear his own load. How do you reconcile these two concepts? Are there any other passages of scripture to help you resolve this contrast?
4. In verse 4, Paul says that a man's reason to boast is "in himself alone." Yet in verse 14, Paul says he will only boast "in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ." How do you reconcile these concepts? Are there any other passages of scripture to help you resolve this contrast?

### Application

- Tell a story about how someone has confronted you in your sin with gentleness or when you have been confronted poorly (no names, please).
- It's hard to bear one another's burdens when we do not know what they are. Share a burden that you are currently bearing.
- Assess your own home group. Are you sharing your struggles? Are you bearing each other's burdens? How can you take one step forward as a group?

### Pray

Repent for the ways that you have hurt other Christians in the name of speaking the truth in love. Plead with the Lord about each other's current burdens and struggles.