

18 July

 Break the ice

Write down what God is saying to you in today's message:

TOPIC: Book of Galatians



Let's hear your story

1. Have you ever had to restore a friend, family member or work colleague who sinned against you?
2. How should we restore a brother according to Galatians 6:1? (**You who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness.**)
3. What warning does Paul give us in v.1? (**Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted.**)
4. According to v.2; how can we help one another in a Spirit filled community? (**Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.**)



Let's go deeper

5. Is v.5; an individual or corporate responsibility? (**Individual; for each will have to bear his own load.**)
6. What is the difference between a burden and your own load? (**A burden is a heavy load like sickness, death, divorce, etc. and your own load is your own individual responsibilities as an adult.**)
7. What is the main principle taught in v.7? (**Sowing and reaping; for whatever one sows, that will he also reap.**)
8. What should we not grow weary of in v.9? (**Do not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.**)



Let's apply this

9. Doing good to all:

In v.10 we read; So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

- In what ways can you do good to everyone this week?

SUMMARY:

- **Four ways to develop a Spirit filled community**

Read: Galatians 6:1 – 10

v. 1; Paul teaches us to restore (build people up), and not to punish them when they sin. When someone sins against you, it's important for you to come back to Galatians 6 and say, God wants me to build them up into the fullness of Christ and not punish them by telling everyone what they did, or cause them pain, harm or give them the silent treatment, rather than forgiveness.

And what Paul is also talking about in v.1 is to be honest of our own temptations. So, once we determine that someone needs help and we determine who the best person is to provide that help, our goals should be to restore them gently. That means to build them up to the fullness of who they can be, through the person and work of the Holy Spirit.

v.2 – 5; Paul encourages us to be a burden lifter, not a burden giver. Paul is talking about those who put burdens on you and those who take burdens off you.

Jesus taught previously that religion, religious people, law-based people, non-relational people, He said they put heavy burdens on people, things like duties, responsibilities with no help and lots of expectations. Jesus says in **Matthew 11:28**; come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give your rest. v.29; Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. v.30; For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

And what Jesus is saying is that religious, demanding, legalistic law-based people, they're going to put burdens on you, they're burdened givers, and that He is a burden lifter. He helps lift your burdens and carry your burdens. The difference between burden lifters and burden givers are, burden givers make excuses, burden lifters make plans.

v.6; Paul teach that we need to learn to receive and give generously. One of the major themes in Galatians is grace. And what grace manifests itself in is generosity. Generosity with your words, your deeds and also your resources.

v.7 – 10; Paul is talking here about sowing and reaping. And you reap what you sow. If we give law to people, expect to get law. If we are loving people, we are going to get loved. If we encourage people, they're going to encourage us. If you put all your time into your marriage, you will reap a harvest. You put time and energy into each of your children, you will reap a harvest. Paul says, do not give up. He says, "**Do not grow weary of doing good for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.**"