



SERMON STUDY GUIDE

Sermon Title: "BEAR ONE ANOTHER'S BURDENS"

Scripture: GALATIANS 6:1-2

Date: November 22nd, 2015

STORIES OF FAITH

As you begin your time together, invite the group to share 'Evidences of God's Grace' that you have experienced or observed this week. This helps draw our attention to what God is doing in the everyday routines of life, brings Him glory, and allows us to encourage each other where we see fruitful growth in one another.

Alternatively, you could ask one person each week to share their Jesus story (testimony), sharing about the difference Christ has made/makes in their life.

OPENING COMMENT

As followers of Jesus, we are called to "Bear One Another's Burdens", to live in a culture in community, but our practice is much more individualistic in acting and thinking.

"Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgressions, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. Bear one another's burdens. and so fulfill the law of Christ"
Galatians 6:1-2

WORKING THROUGH THE PASSAGE

1) Spend some time reflecting on the "One Another" series. What has been meaningful to you? What has God been saying to you through the series? Which "One Another" had the most impact on your life?

2) Reflecting back, what's the difference between "Encourage & Build One Another Up" and "Bear One Another's Burdens"?

3) What does it look like to “Bear One Another’s Burdens” in our culture today? How do you understand the word “Burden” in the context of Galatians 6:1-2?

4) If you have freedom to testify to the goodness and grace of God in your life of a time when a burden of sin was lifted, share it with the group. Talk specifically about the person who helped you. What qualities and characteristics did they possess? How did they help you?

5) What do you think about the statement: “The church often shoots the wounded?” Read [John 8:1-11](#) in light of this statement. What do you discover?

6) Discuss the essential qualities of a burden-bearer (brother/sister, family; “you who are spiritual”; gentle; self-aware; “good-doer”.) Why are these qualities important? Spend time in prayer, asking God to fill you with His Spirit and these five qualities so that you can be a burden-bearer for Him.

SHARE AND PRAY TOGETHER

As you prepare to pray together, discuss/pray the following questions: What do you need to bring to Jesus today? Pray for someone who can help you? Pray for someone whom can you help? Whose burden’s can you bear today? Then, spend time praying for one another. Praying scripture together is a great way to start: Read [Psalm 68:19-20](#) give thanks and lift God’s name high.

Take time to listen to, or sing together, the following songs - “*There is Power in the Blood*” (Lewis E Jones) & “*The River*” (Brian Doerksen)

Christmas season is coming, a time when many are open to hearing the Gospel message. What are some missional opportunities that your group can start praying about? What can you do together and/or as individuals to impact the community with the Gospel?