



Look to Jesus

Galatians 6:1-5

Friday, July 24th, 2020

¹Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently. But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted. ²Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. ³If anyone thinks they are something when they are not, they deceive themselves. ⁴Each one should test their own actions. Then they can take pride in themselves alone, without comparing themselves to someone else, ⁵for each one should carry their own load. "

Paul writes words of warning here in these first 5 verses of chapter 6. He calls us to lovingly correct others when they go astray, carry their burdens, examine ourselves soberly, and live a life of responsibility.

As I read the passage for today, I first thought to myself, "Hm... I wish I had a more encouraging text to write about!" But Paul has already written so much encouragement in the preceding chapters and always reminded us that we are justified by Jesus Christ alone by faith. Now we are reading about how God's grace should affect our lives practically.

Before we begin trying to do "good" to others, we should be thinking about what Christ did for us and who we are in Him. When I start thinking about "someone caught in a sin," then I can and must remind myself that Jesus already died for my sins and all the sins of others; He has paid the debt and forgiven both of us for our sins. When I am aware of His unconditional love, only then will I be able to handle the sins and burdens of others lovingly and correctly.

Jesus is our prime example in how He corrected His disciples when they went astray; humbly, gently, and sometimes very directly. He taught each disciple over and over what it means to be the greatest in His Kingdom: being the servant of all.

In verse 2 we are told to carry one another's burdens. Jesus is our example here, too. He already has carried our greatest burdens! Many of which you weren't even aware of and may not even be aware of right now. I am thankful when others spend time with and want to do something together with me, because for me it's often a burden for me to be alone as a single. Parents have others burdens they carry, and we should be always trying to recognize others' burdens so we can help carry them.

In verse 5 Paul also reminds us that each one is to carry their own load, because God gave each of us certain tasks that we are not to push onto others. Someday we will each stand before God and give an account of how we spent our time, our money, and our gifts to further Jesus' Kingdom.

Prayer: LORD Jesus Christ, I thank You that You have taken my sins upon Yourself, that You carried our burdens, and that even though we in ourselves our nothing, we are strong and have everything in You. You are our power and joy who allows us to carry other's burdens and to accept other's help in carrying ours. Help us see Your grace, so that we can be motivated by Your love every day to live in this world next to our brothers and sisters! Amen.

-Samuel Aisenbrey-

