

## **HANDOUT PART FIVE: DRESSED TO SERVE “Bearing One Another’s Burdens”**

**READ COL. 3:12-14: READ Galatians 6:1-6:5 & 9-10 “Bearing One Another’s Burdens”**

*This Passage says we are to ‘Restore’ the One who has Tripped. The Greek word kat-ar-tid'-zo means to Set a Broken Bone, to Mend a Net or to Repair and Piece Back Together what is Broken.*

- Every verse but one has a big yellow light flashing: Caution! And the message of warning is directed Not to the one who has fallen...But to Those Who Aim to Help.
- In Verses Vs 3-4 Paul speaks Clearly about how we are to Bear Up One Another. *Look closely at “Our Hearts”...Because Pride Can Cause us to Hurt One Another instead of Bear with One Another.*
- If a Christian brother or sister is weighed down with some burden or threat, We are to be alert to that and quickly do something to help. Don't let them be Crushed. Don't let them be Destroyed.

In Matthew 23:4 Jesus said Don't be like the scribes and Pharisees. "They bind heavy burdens hard to bear and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will Not move them with their finger".

- Our Ministry is to Develop the extraordinary skill for detecting the Burdens of others and devote yourself daily to making them Lighter. **“Lift their Burdens...Restore their Joy!”**

Vs 2 Concludes with a Promise, “In this way You Fulfill the Law of Christ”. In chapter 3:13 Paul wrote "Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law." The Mosaic Law was an External Law that “Could Not Change Our Hearts” Our Pride and Rebellion was Not Conquered by Moses.

- But when Christ summons us to Obey His law of Love, *He offers us Himself to slay the dragon of our pride, Change our Hearts, Empower us by His Spirit, and Fulfill His Law.*

**READ Matthew 11:28-30** The law of Christ is Not Easy Because it's “Permissive”...**It is Easy Because When We are Weak...He Is Strong!** It's Easy Because Jesus Produces the Fruit of Love: (Gal 2:20).

*Christ Never Commands us to do anything that He wants Us to do of our Own Ability! Every Command in the Law of Christ is a Call to Faith. Through Faith God Supplies the Spirit of Christ (Gal 3:5); Through the Spirit we Produce the Fruit of Love (Gal 5:22); Through Love we Fulfill the Law of Christ (Gal 6:2).*

- Therefore, if You Trust Him, You Will Fulfill His Law of Love...And You Will Devote Yourself to Lifting the Burdens of Others.

In Verse 1 Paul gives Us one specific kind of burden and how to help a person bear it. *“Brethren, if a man is Overtaken in any Trespass, You who are Spiritual should Restore him in a Spirit of Gentleness (Meekness).”*

*We think of Burdens as Sickness, Unemployment, Loss of a Loved one, Loneliness, Rejection, etc., and the People who Bear them as Victims. However, Paul shows us in verse 1 that Burdens Include Trespasses.*

**KEY:** A Burden is Anything that Threatens to Crush the Joy of Our Faith. Whether a Tragedy that threatens to make us Doubt God's Goodness, or a Sin that threatens to Drag us into Guilt and Judgment.

Paul says, **“Restore him.” The word means, Make Things Right.** Sin is a breakdown in the machinery of our life and...It Has to be Repaired. If you find someone with a breakdown, do what you need to do in order to Restore the Person to Good, Godly Running Condition. **Restore the Joy!**

**KEY:** Nobody who lives by the law of Christ and in the Power of Christ can say about a brother's or sister's Sin: *“That's NOT MY Business. I Don't have to Add that to My Burdens. It's Their Problem, NOT Mine.”*

- That Response creates an atmosphere of Silence and Neglect—Instead of Confronting One in Love...Seeking to Restore Them in Christ!

**We are to Cultivate an Atmosphere where Love is So Great that We take the Breakdown of Sin Seriously and Serve Each Other as Merciful Mechanics. Allowing Christ to Repair their Sin.**

OUR KEY RESPONSIBILITY: Our Primary Job is to Admonish, Rebuke or Warn each other about Attitudes and Habits and Plans which are Wrong, and then Point Each Other to the Great Mechanic JESUS who Can Fix Any Broken Or Troubled Person.

That's the Main Point of this Passage: Bear each Other's Burdens; Specifically, Take On the Trouble of Helping People Realize Their Sin and Get it Repaired.

- Mend their Lives...As Jesus Puts the Pieces Back Together...And Makes New!

NOW...If it seems easy for you to help a person bear the burden of unemployment, sickness, the loss of a loved one, loneliness, or rejection...But too hard for You to Bear the Burden of Confronting a Person Because of Sin...**Consider This: A Sinful Attitude or a Sinful Habit is Much More Harmful to a Person than Any of Those Other Burdens.**

If We really Care about a Person's Ultimate Welfare, We Will CONFRONT them with Their Sin as well as COMFORT them in Their Trouble.

**KEY: Christ wants a family of Believers who Love each other so much that they Cannot Look the Other Way while a Brother or Sister Hardens into a Habit of Sin!**

Gal 6:2–5 is a Warning Against the Danger of Pride, for those who Take On the Burden of Correcting and Restoring a Fellow Believer. This is not a Warning Against Correcting and Admonishing and Restoring a Person; it is a Warning Against Doing it “Arrogantly”.

- In verse 3 Paul says that our problem is that We think Higher of Ourselves than We should and so we Deceive Ourselves!

Arrogance does 2 things in our Bearing up One Another...**First**, It Keeps Us from Caring about the other Person and...**Secondly**, We become Impatient with the Person and Choose to Not Love or Care for the person when they get Difficult.

Every time I believe that I have the Right to Give-Up on Someone God Sends me back to Matthew 18 A king wanted to settle accounts with his servants... As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him...He was Not able to pay...So the master ordered he, his family and all his property to be sold to repay the debt. The servant fell on his knees and begged, 'Be patient with me,' I will pay back everything.' The Master took pity on him, canceled the “entire” debt and let him go. When that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed and choked him. “Pay back what You Owe Me!” “His fellow servant begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.’” “But he refused and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened. “Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back All he Owed...” *“This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”*

You and I Must Realize We are Debtors and Our Job is to Forgive and Bear Up Other Debtors...Just as Christ has Forgiven Us and Patiently Loves Us Back into His Arms...So We Must Do the Same for Each other! “Lift a Burden...Restore their Joy!”

**“LIFE” POINT: “Lift a Burden...Restore the Joy!”**