



BE FREE

A STUDY IN GALATIANS

BE FREE

DEVOTIONAL

WEEK 6

We've all had those moments. Moments when we feel that our whole world is crashing down around us. Perhaps it was the consequence of a poor decision we made, a difficult situation with a family member, or a crisis that was out of our control. How do we walk through these moments with grace and truth, if we can barely walk at all? In Galatians, Paul is encouraging the church to invest in personal relationships. "Carry one another's burdens; in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." (Galatians 6:2) Paul knows that there are times when we will need the strength of others to make it through challenges. Investing in relationships ensures that we will have support in difficult times.

God, in His infinite wisdom, gives us people to walk through life with. Of course, this concept is contrary to the drift of our present culture. We tend to foster independence and interact in sound-bites or through faceless media. Even with all of our modern connectivity at our fingertips, many individuals are more isolated than ever.

Take a moment to reflect on your life, do you have people around you that you've personally invested in?

Who are the individuals you can call on to help carry your burden now or when the time comes?

Paul is showing us how to be a friend. He is calling us to be present with others in the fullest sense of the word. He knows the importance of caring enough to take action. Helping to shoulder the burden of another

is an investment, and there is a cost associated with the action. That is what love does, it gives. Just as Jesus came and gave it all, we are called to love in a way that encourages, equips, and gives hope. No matter how inadequate we might feel, we can all share a burden by spending time with someone who is enduring hardship.

Not only is this beautiful, but it fulfills the law of Christ – which is not a set of rules, or a list of dos and don'ts. It's not about attending church or reading your Bible for so many minutes a day. The law of Christ is to love others as He so abundantly loves you. Jesus is delighted and glorified when we love those around us— when we think of them, serve them tangibly, and get on our knees to pray for them.

**More powerful than the words we speak
is the life we live.**

Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal a person or a situation to you where you can offer help? What might be the next step?

Part of Spirit-filled living is showing kindness, love, joy, peace, and other virtues in our everyday interactions. Will you commit to a small act of kindness to make a difference in the life of those you encounter? _____

How might you adapt your daily routine to live a more Spirit-filled life?



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