

Study 16
Galatians 6:1-5

1. Why is it that it is so common in church that we either provoke or envy others and why does this cause dissension?
2. Why is conceit such an important human problem? Why do we have conceit? How does conceit or vain glory manifest itself in church fellowship?
3. In Gal 6:1-2 what are the six principles of spiritual restoration?

b) Reflection Question. Can you share amongst yourselves your experiences in helping others or when others are helping restore you? What were the negative things that they did and what were the positives?

4. a) What do you understand by the concept of spiritual restoration?

 - b) Does everyone require you to restore them?

 - c) Why do we even have to bother with bearing another person's burden?

 - d) Who are the persons best qualified for spiritual restoration?

 - e) Does Paul indicate any criteria?
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5. Is Paul contradicting himself when he asks the Galatians to bear each other's burdens in v2 and then he writes that we are to bear our own burden in v5? How are we to bear our own burdens?

Case History

Pastor Ryan had been serving the 4th Baptist church for the last 10 years and was married with three kids. Over the past year, he seemed distracted and had been noticed to be taking extra-long lunches with one of the administrative staff of the church. A church member noticed the two of them having lunch together in an exclusive Japanese restaurant. One of the Elders confronted him about the inappropriate behavior as there were lots of rumors spreading about the two of them. He steadfastly denied any impropriety at all. The matter was dropped till his wife noticed a pair of ladies' undergarments in his car which were not his and she reported this to her life group leader.

1. If you were a close friend of Pastor Ryan what would you do and why?
2. If it was confirmed that the pastor was having an affair with the administrative staff what do you think should be done? What would you counsel his wife to do?
3. What should the church do about his job? Consider that he has a family to support.
4. Suppose he is truly remorseful and repentant of his sexual indiscretion, should he be allowed to resume his duties in preaching, teaching, and ministry? When should this happen?

Takeaway

Galatians 6:1-5 teaches believers to humbly restore others, bear one another's burdens, and avoid comparison, focusing instead on personal spiritual growth in Christ. True gospel relationships are marked by love, humility, and mutual support, reflecting God's grace.