



Galatians 6:1-5: Keep Watch on Yourself

Grace and the Gospel Bible Study

St. John Lutheran Church

“Whoever diligently weighs the apostle’s words may see that he is not talking about heretical errors and offenses but about sins of minor consequence, in which anyone may fall not of his own free will or a firm purpose but out of weakness.”

- Martin Luther, *Commentary on Saint Paul’s Epistle to the Galatians*

What kinds of habits and patterns do others see in us that we can’t see?

It has been said, “The purpose of life is finding the largest burden that you can bear and bearing it.” Do you agree?

Galatians 6:1

What should happen when someone is caught up in sin?

What do we usually do when someone is caught up in sin?

2 Corinthians 2:6-7 For such a one, this punishment by the majority is enough, so you should rather turn to forgive and comfort him, or he may be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow.

Who works for restoration? With what kind of attitude?

What warning does Paul suggest?

Galatians 6:2

What are we called to do with one another’s burdens?

Romans 15:1-3 We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to build him up. For Christ did not please himself, but as it is written, “The reproaches of those who reproached you fell on me.”

What kinds of burdens do others have?

1 Corinthians 9:21-22 To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some.

Galatians 6:3

How should we think of ourselves?

1 Corinthians 3:5-7 What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth.

Galatians 6:4

What are we called to do with our works?

1 Corinthians 11:28 Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup.

Are we supposed to boast? What is Paul saying?

James 4:13-17 Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit" -yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that." As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

Galatians 6:5

Didn't Paul just say to bear one another's burdens (v. 2)?

What kind of *load* does Paul mean for us to bear? Is this about ordinary life or at the last day?

Luke 11:46 Woe to you lawyers also! For you load people with burdens hard to bear, and you yourselves do not touch the burdens with one of your fingers.