

Galatians - Practically Loving Others and Ourselves

Good morning Southwest Family

Fellowship, so good to be with you this Fourth of July weekend. I hope you can have some time off to relax and hang out with family and friends.

Today we are going to be diving back into our Galatians series and finish it up. We will be unpacking the last chapter of this letter in chapter 6 and it's a practical one, but also a challenging one.

Paul has taken us on a journey through this letter to the Galatians, he has rebuked and corrected a works based righteousness and salvation, he has explained followers of Christ's status as heirs, who are adopted into sonship in the Kingdom of God, living by the Spirit, walking in the freedom of obedience, walking by the Spirit, avoiding the dangers of legalism, that they

are no longer bound and enslaved to the law, and that Christ's sacrifice took our burden so we could experience the blessings of the covenant. Our works are still a reflection of the heart change that happened through Christ's redemption and so through this faith and works work together. His intentionality and urgency to correct and love the Galatians was truly profound.

Today's scripture is about practically loving others and ourselves, as well as avoiding the dangers of our flesh and this world that will try to undermine this righteous drive. It's great and all to be taught and directed to love our neighbor as ourselves and serve one another humbly in love. But if we only merely hear it and learn it but don't implement it and allow it to affect us, then Paul's letter to the Galatians is just good literature, it's just good writing and not meaningful and heart changing.

Let's dive into our first passage in Galatians 6:1-10,

Doing Good to All

6 Brothers 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. 2 Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. 3 If anyone thinks they are something when they are not, they deceive themselves. 4 Each one should test their own actions. Then they can take pride in themselves alone, without comparing themselves to someone else, 5 for each one should carry their own load. 6 Nevertheless, the one who receives instruction in the word should share all good things with their instructor. 7 Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. 8 Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit,

from the Spirit will reap eternal life. 9 Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. 10 Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

This passage is full of practical steps and ways of relating with others as followers of Christ. It starts off by telling us Spirit led people restore our fallen siblings in Christ gently and lovingly, it warns us of falling ourselves, calls us to carry each other's burdens, avoid fleshly pride, strive for godly pride in one's faith development, as we bear our own load in this life, because if we live through the Spirit we sow things pleasing of the Spirit which reaps eternal life, rather than sowing of the flesh which leads to destruction, and it also encourages us to continue to do good and not give up doing good.

A quick sentence sum up of this whole thing is a recollection of what we talked about last week, Love your neighbor as yourself, serve one another humbly in love, and through the Spirit avoid the drivings of the flesh. When we are able to do this and do it well, it fosters healthy relationships in our lives, with others, with ourself and with God.

That leads us into our first point for today, Living by the Spirit fosters healthy gospel relationships, one's that encourage one another, challenge one another, and help carry one another's burdens.

Healthy gospel relationships are driven and led by Life by the Spirit. When we are living by the Spirit he will fill us with love, care, concern, compassion and a sense of responsibility for our brothers and sisters in Christ. We will feel at

times called to come alongside our siblings in Christ to help them through a tough time, an obstacle, a habitual sin pattern and any reconnection to Christ that may be necessary.

Now that may be scary, that may be uncomfortable, and that might even be something you're thinking about never doing right now. But part of us being the body of Christ together and being in community together as children of God, is looking after one another. And scarily enough that includes correcting one another out of love.

Verses 1 and 2 of Galatians 6, "Brothers 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. 2 Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."

This is part of carrying each other's burdens. This is part of loving your neighbor as yourself. True gospel centered relationships require genuine care, correction and this Spirit responsibility to bear each other's burdens even in the hard times of others (or yourself's) sin behaviors. But it doesn't just end at sin behaviors, bearing one another's burdens also means loss, pain, hardship, obstacles, and so on.

In previous sermons I have discussed my competitive drive, and my desire for others to like me and value me based on being good and proficient at certain activities or things. My pride and my identity are rooted in how others view how good I am at sports, or being relatable, or being funny, or any number of things that I have strived after in this life. In those moments I am rooted in fear, I am denying my identity and status as a child of God who is loved and

accepted and has value because of my faith and relationship with God. My fear, my pride and my desire to find my identity in how other's view me are fleshly desires, they are fleshly interactions with this life and my purpose and they are sin behaviors. They are disconnecting me from the heart of God, and they are something that I habitually struggle with.

I have had the honor and blessing to have people in my life like my father, my mother, my best friend, my wife and others who help carry that burden and challenge me gently and lovingly to disconnect from that sin behavior and pattern. I have monthly calls with my best friend, Jack, who is also in ministry where we connect and encourage each other but also correct and challenge each other when we begin doing things for the wrong reasons or place ourselves and our ambitions above God's will and direction.

These people in my life remind me of my identity as a child of God and lovingly let me know, that hey! You don't have to win everything and strive to be better at everything for people to like you or value you. They living by the Spirit gently restored me. Honestly I continually need to be gently restored of my pride and fear, these are issues that I know I must submit to the Lord daily and seek his Spirit for help and restoration constantly. I am thankful for those in my life that choose to help me through this and carry my burdens.

Maybe someone you know is going out of town and they don't have anyone to watch their dogs, so you help bear their burdens and watch them. Maybe someone in the church is having surgery and you are apart of the Cares Team and you provide a meal for the family during the time of recovery. Maybe you have a next door neighbor who is older and not as mobile and you

see they need help mowing their lawn so you bear their burden with them in that way. Maybe your friend just broke up with a significant other and they are sad so you take them out for ice cream and bear that emotional burden with them. Whatever it may be, it is a good thing to be there for others and to show them love through support and bearing one another's burdens.

In the movie Finding Nemo (NEMO PICTURE), Marlin, Nemo's dad is overwhelmed with burden and fear and pain at the reality that his son has been taken by a diver and he may never see him again. He has a few clues like the diver's goggles (PICTURE OF GOGGLES) of where to look for his son. He realizes that his burden is swimming across the ocean, away from the safety and security of his home, his sea anemone. So he sets out and begins his trek to go save his son. Now Marlin was THE most

cautious and play it safe to the chest type of clown fish out there. He didn't like taking any risks or being in any situation where danger could even be whispered. So for him to set out and go on this journey across the dangerous ocean was astounding.

Now shortly along his burdensome journey he meets Dory (Dory picture) and they hit it off once he opens up and allows himself to receive help and support. Dory begins to carry some of the burden of this trek to find Marlin's son. Marlin allows Dory in. So they traverse the ocean on their way to Sydney, Australia.

They encounter some pretty rough obstacles and Dory helps carry some pretty heavy burden, they encounter some recovering Sharks who are trying their best not to eat fish (but still come after them) (SHARK pic), they go through a sea of jelly fish (Jelly Fish), they ride the EAC with Crush (Crush), and then find Nemo

in Sydney, in a dentist's office and it seems as though an eager little girl has shaken Nemo to death in a fishy bag (Nemo in bag). This was all a plan so Nemo could escape out the toilet and into the ocean and Marlin and Dory find him there, only to encounter more turmoil and burdensome happenings.

Dory gets stuck in a fishing net (Fishing net) and Nemo helps her and the other fish escape but they almost lose Nemo again. This whole story is full of obstacles and burdens and setbacks, but the whole time Dory diligently carries them and experiences them together alongside Marlin. We are called to bear one another's burdens in life just like Dory helped Marlin bear his burdens in this movie.

Galatians 6:2 encourages us to Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. As followers of Christ, we are called to support and help one another in times of need. This

extends beyond just offering physical assistance; it also involves providing emotional and spiritual support. Dory provided physical, emotional, and mental support. We should cultivate a community where people feel safe and loved, knowing that they can turn to their brothers and sisters in Christ when they are overwhelmed. By sharing each other's burdens, we display the love of Christ and fulfill His commandment.

John Piper has a great encouragement for us all from one of his sermons back in 1983 on this passage, it says, "Don't increase burdens. Make them lighter for people. Some of you wonder what you are supposed to do with your life. Here is a vocation that will bring you more satisfaction than if you became a millionaire ten times over: Develop the extraordinary skill for detecting the burdens of others and devote yourself daily to making them lighter. In this way you fulfill the law of Christ (6:2). That's an odd

phrase in a book that says (5:18): "If you are led by the Spirit you are not under the law." And (3:13): "Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law." Have we been freed from the curse and burden of the Mosaic law just to be burdened down with a more radical law of Christ? No. The difference is that Moses gave us a law but could not change our hearts so that we would freely obey. 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."

Christ's love and redemption provided us a renewal where we received the Spirit to walk alongside us and guide us. And through the Spirit we are called to love our neighbors as ourselves, we are called to serve one another humbly in love and we are called to bear one

another's burdens. This is the Law of Christ to love one another, to be there for one another, and to lead one another to a fulfilling and intentional connection and relationship with Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. Because Christ bore our burdens first, so now we are called to bear the burdens of others, and through this we fulfill the new Law, we live out of the new covenant. To love others as ourselves, and to love God through loving his people, and obeying his will.

John Piper goes on to say this about the Law of Christ, "The law of Christ is not easy because it's greasy, or permissive. It is easy because when we are weak, he is strong. It's easy because he produces the fruit of love: "I am crucified with Christ, it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me" (2:20). Christ never commands us to do anything that he wants us to

do on our own. Therefore, every command in the law of Christ is a call to faith. Through faith God supplies the Spirit of Christ (Galatians 3:5); through the Spirit we produce the fruit of love (5:22); through love we fulfill the law of Christ (6:2). Therefore, if you trust him, you will fulfill his law of love. You will devote yourself to lifting the burdens of others."

We should probably define a burden, then, as 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. As we devote ourselves to loving others, and carrying the burdens of others we are fulfilling the Law of Christ and the Law of love. This is a growth of faith.

When we are filled with the love of Christ and led by the Spirit we serve others humbly in

love and that keeps us from being consumed with conceit or envy towards those above us and below us. We remain content. We remain secure. We remain grateful. Because through Christ we are already all these things, so we remain in love and through this all of our life flows out. When we remain in love we refrain from living out of pride or low esteem, which these things keep us from bearing one another's burdens and developing gospel relationships.

Timothy Keller explains how the prideful person and the low self esteem person are similar, "The only difference between the person of arrogance and the person with low self-esteem is that the inferior person has lost at the game, and despairs about themselves and envies those they see as "winners". The superior person, on the other hand, feels as though they have, for the moment, won, and continually

compares themselves with others to check they are still winning. Of course, much of the time we are both provoking in one area of our lives and envying in another.

So though provoking and envying seem like exact opposites, they are both forms of conceit.

As C.S. Lewis pointed out, **humility is not thinking less of yourself: it is thinking of yourself less.** *Self-flagellation and low self-esteem are not marks of gospel humility.* They are just as much a rejection of the gospel as are pride and self-confidence!

So both the superiority complex and the inferiority complex are, at root, born of insecurity and inferiority. They are just two different outworkings of our desire to gain glory for ourselves, to feel worthwhile as people.

When we are consumed with comparison and constantly looking at others and their accomplishments, achievements, wealth and success or lack thereof, we live a life that is incomplete. We live a life where we are constantly wanting more. You cannot bear one another's burdens when you are comparing yourself to them. You must be content and secure in who you are in Christ in order to bear another's burdens.

If someone is not rooted in Christ and isn't remaining in love, then that person either with a lot or not so much are driven by the same aspirations, they want more for themselves. And it can manifest in different ways, but when we can't approach God or our life from a place of contentment it harms our relationships. The relationships we have with others and also the relationship we have with ourselves, and most importantly the relationship we have with Christ.

Part of having gospel relationships is being content, having gratitude and knowing that we have already received everything we will ever truly need through grace and love. The rest is just extra. Without love we have nothing, and without Christ it's all for naught. We don't need to get rid of all of our stuff or act like it's worthless, but at the end of the day these things in this life are merely external blessings from an amazing God. If they become the most important things in our lives it becomes an issue. When our house, or our car, or our status, or even our spouse or kids become more important than God, we are treating the greatest gift and the best blessing in our life like it doesn't matter.

We are telling God, thanks but no thanks. My stuff here on Earth that you created is better than the creator. We must submit our desires, wants, and aspirations to the Lord and be

content in where we were at, and then after that we can enjoy the extra blessings of this world.

A.W. Tozer in his book *The Pursuit of God* is talking about our tendency to cling to things and find our value in things not of God, he says,

“There can be no doubt that this possessive clinging to things is one of the most harmful habits in the life. Because it is so natural, it is rarely recognized for the evil that it is; but its outworkings are tragic.

We are often hindered from giving up our treasures to the Lord out of fear for their safety; this is especially true when those treasures are loved relatives and friends. But we need have no such fears. Our Lord came not to destroy but to save. Everything is safe which we commit to Him, and nothing is really safe which is not so committed.

Our gifts and talents should also be turned over to Him. They should be recognized for what

they are, God's loan to us, and should never be considered in any sense our own. We have no more right to claim credit for special abilities than for blue eyes or strong muscles.”

Our blessings in this life come from God and yet we often will replace God in our lives with the blessings and the things he has given us. We find our identity in stuff, in status, in people, and in our gifts. Our self image and identity stray from the identity as a child of God and that is problematic. We must learn to commit these things to him. We must learn to remain in love, remain content, and remain secure in who we are as a child of God. We need the Holy Spirit's help to not only foster good relationships with others but also ourself.

That leads us into our second point for today, **Living by the Spirit allows us to have a Gospel based self image that's rooted in love.**

Our image and worth come from being a child of God and a redeemed follower of Christ. That and only that gives us worth, value, and contentment that will last us eternity. All the rest of it will perish and crumble. But being rooted in Christ and his redemption for us is what gives us this Gospel based image.

When we are rooted in the gospel and approach our life through faith in Christ we are able to avoid the perils of conceit and envy. Like it said in our passage from last week in Galatians 5:25-26, **"25 Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. 26 Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other."**

When we walk step in step with the Spirit he helps us love one another and treat one another with contentment, gratitude, respect and all the other fruits of the Spirit. When we interact and relate with others we refrain from doing it out of a place of conceitedness, provoking and envy.

Because when we are saved by grace and only by grace we realize that by Christ's sacrifice and redemption alone we are now redeemed, set free and propelled to a place where we can love radically, obey fervently and trust wholeheartedly. We approach our life from a place of contentment, security and a high self worth that is valued in our identity as children of God. We do not need to achieve righteousness or validity on our own. We do not need to "win" or be better than others. We can rejoice in one another's victories, talents and successes.

If we are trying to achieve these things by works or the Law we are rooted in conceit and

envy. It becomes a constant comparison and it becomes a status game. We subconsciously and consciously begin analyzing and valuing everything. Our status is in doubt, our identity is insecure, our self image is anything but radiant.

Timothy Keller explains this dynamic well,

“Because if I am saved by my works, then I can either be confident but not humble (superior, provoking, because I feel I'm "winning") or humble but not confident (inferior and envious, because I feel I'm losing). Apart from the gospel, I will be forced to be superior or inferior, or to swing back and forth, or to be one way with some people and another way with others. I am continually caught between these two ways, because of the nature of my self-image. But the gospel creates a new self-image, as we have seen previously. **It humbles me before**

anyone, telling me I am a sinner saved only by grace. But it also emboldens me before anyone, telling me I am loved and honored by the only eyes in the universe that really count.”

Did you catch that last part because it is so good and it is something I want you to remember in your faith journeys? He said “But the gospel creates a new self-image, as we have seen previously. **It humbles me before anyone, telling me I am a sinner saved only by grace. But it also emboldens me before anyone, telling me I am loved and honored by the only eyes in the universe that really count.”**

We've talked about this for the past couple weeks that we often look at grace as a one sided relationship or exchange. He took our sins and

redeemed us of them, but we miss the second part, we share in the inheritance and the glory promised to Christ. We become full heirs, we are adopted into sonship, we are children of the Kingdom of God and we are part of that royalty.

Yes Jesus took our sins and we are humbled as we are saved only by grace. But we are also emboldened before others, meaning we are given the confidence and assurance that we are LOVED and HONORED (write) by the divine creator, and the almighty God. We are loved and honored by THAT God. And not only that but we are ASSURED of that love and that glory.

Our gospel based self image is rooted in that love, honor, and status he assures us. We ARE adopted into sonship with Christ, we ARE co-heirs with Christ, and we ARE redeemed, saved and loved by him. And we must correct ourselves, and recenter ourselves through this gospel lens.

When we are feeling down because of something someone has said or done to us we must recenter ourself and realize that it does not matter what they say or think of us, because the Almighty God and Lord loves us and honors us assuredly. We can analyze and react to situations through this worth and understanding. The gospel constantly recenters us on our redemption and our assurances of love and honor through our identity in Christ's love.

When we look at others and are thinking nasty thoughts towards them, or are being rude to them, or looking down on them, we must in the moment recenter ourselves through the gospel lens. These feelings of pride and arrogance about myself are not what gives me worth. These are not the things that my identity is rooted in, I am a sinner and need redemption just as much as this person I am being rude to, or looking down upon.

When we approach others and look at others through this lens we can empathize, we can analyze their reactions and emotions through the lens of the Fruits of the Spirit. We can be gentle, patient, kind and loving towards them. We can put ourselves in their shoes. We may be quicker to realize that their bad reaction or rough demeanor is a reflection of some hardship or thing going on in their life, not a raging vendetta to ruin yours.

A gospel centered self image allows us to love others better.

In verses 3-5, “3 If anyone thinks they are something when they are not, they deceive themselves. 4 Each one should test their own actions. Then they can take pride in themselves alone, without comparing themselves to someone else, 5 for each one should carry their own load.”

Paul is explaining that we should not think we are something when we are not, which means not have a false sense of pride and arrogance for what Christ has done for us or what we think we have done for ourselves. But rather have a righteous pride through Christ to know that we are able to carry our own load.

Load and burdens are different things in these verses. The English words convey a different meaning than the Greek intended. The word translated to burdens implies a large load that requires help and assistance to bear and carry, whereas the load is something manageable and handleable by a single person.

Our load is the strengths and weaknesses we have in life, the gifts and abilities, the situations and opportunities, the different set of circumstances that each and every one of us has in this life. The pride we have in ourselves for carrying our own load is based on the obedience

and the growth we are achieving with the Spirit in our own lives. It is the evidence of the Fruits of the Spirit developing in our lives, it is the development and progressing of our own faith that is important.

Our gospel centered image is based off Christ's work in us and then our development and growth through him and the Spirit. It is not rooted in comparison. Tim Keller says it this way, "If we see life in this way, we will judge our life each day against who we have been, and who we could have been. When we see progress, we will take legitimate pride in it, whether or not we are better or worse than someone else. We will not compare ourselves with someone who has done less than us (and feel conceited pride) or someone who has done more (and feel conceited despair or envy). God has given them a different load to carry and to serve Him with.

Our task is to carry our individual load, not someone else's, in a way that pleases God."

A gospel centered image will weed out the conceitedness and envy in our hearts. It will allow us to look at our life through the lens that Christ does. A lens that only compares the growth and development of faith happening in our own life. Only analyzing our ability to carry our own load, not comparing it to others. Being secure in our ability to handle our own load equips us to bear the burden of others', and it also allows us to sow good seeds in our own life and others' lives. This will reap heavenly rewards.

We see this Principle of Sowing and Reaping in our chapter today. In Galatians 6:7, Paul writes, "Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows."

This principle emphasizes the consequences of our actions and choices. We

need to be mindful of what we sow in our lives, whether it is our words, attitudes, or deeds.

Galatians 6:9 urges us, “9 Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.”

Being mindful of what we are sowing and focusing on doing good are actions that result from a gospel centered self image. When we are secure in our identity in Christ and we remain in love, we desire to do good, we desire to love well, we desire to sow good seeds. We desire to display the Fruits of the Spirit to those in our lives, we desire to serve at our church and in our communities, we desire to use the gifts and abilities God has given us to give back, to love well and bless others.

We are called to lift one another up. We are called to do good to others. We don't call you to serve or get involved at church just for our benefit, honestly the greatest benefit is for you.

When you find outlets and opportunities to use your God given gifts and abilities to love people, spread Kingdom hope, and sow good seeds and do good, it is a fulfilling and faith developing thing.

Before I moved here to Austin my job was not as a Pastor. I was a Shipping Manager at a company that sold parts for forklifts and other construction and farming type vehicles. But I also was actively involved in serving and using my gifts in my local church. Now obviously the church there was appreciative of all the time and effort I put in to serve there, but the reality is it was a major blessing to me.

I was able to continue to do good, I was able to sow good seeds, I was able to sow according to the Spirit. These things allowed me to have pride in myself and see that I was carrying my own load well, I was growing in my

faith, I was stewarding the gifts and abilities and opportunities God had given me. **Students Lives**

I can confidently tell you that I do not just serve at the church, serve others, and sow good seeds because it's my job, I know I would still be doing it if it wasn't because I already was. And this is not some, look at me type monologue. It's me telling you that it's worth it, it is worth it to remain in love, to live by the Spirit, and love others well. Like John Piper said from the quote I used earlier, "Some of you wonder what you are supposed to do with your life. Here is a vocation that will bring you more satisfaction than if you became a millionaire ten times over: Develop the extraordinary skill for detecting the burdens of others and devote yourself daily to making them lighter. In this way you fulfill the Law of Christ."

My identity is not found in being a Pastor, it is not found in being a husband, a son, a brother, a volunteer, or anything else other than being a child of God and someone who serves others in love. Someone who loves their neighbor as themselves. These things fulfill the Law of Christ, loving others and helping them carry their burdens as we all learn to carry our loads.

Serving others comes out of this gospel centered self image, and it not only helps others but also radically changes your heart and your ambition as well.

Paul closes out this letter to the Galatians again reminding them to not get trapped in the deception of a works based salvation and grace. The Judaizers are fixated on influencing these new Galatian Christians to adhere to the religious practice of circumcision to attain grace and this is not necessary under the new covenant. They are seeking this works based righteousness from

a deep place of pride. Paul is warning the Galatians about the death and danger that come from this pride.

That leads us into our third point for today, Living by the Spirit shows us that the cross and the gospel repudiate, eliminate and refute self-salvation.

This in turn protects us from the pride, fleshly desires, and the death that comes with this desire to attain self salvation.

The final verses of this chapter are verses 11-18, let's read them,

11 See what large letters I use as I write to you with my own hand!

12 Those who want to impress people by means of the flesh are trying to compel you to be circumcised. The only reason they do this is to avoid being persecuted for the cross of Christ.

13 Not even those who are circumcised keep the law, yet they want you to be circumcised that

they may boast about your circumcision in the flesh. 14 May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

15 Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is the new creation. 16 Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule—to the Israel of God.

17 From now on, let no one cause me trouble, for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus.

18 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen.”

We can fall into the trap of sowing from our flesh and sowing from our sinful nature which leads to destruction. This is us approaching life from a place of arrogance where we feel we can attain righteousness, just living and love from our own ambitions, decisions and living. This falls

back into the works righteousness downfall that Paul has been urgently warning against.

We must remember that, Real Christianity is a matter of inward change not external observance (WRITTEN ON BOARD).

All forms of self-salvation are external observances, they are ways we try to display what's happening inside. And when we act like those things define our status, our grace, our righteousness, we remove the validity, power and meaning of the cross. Self salvation focuses on external outside things rather than the internal heart change.

The gospel is inside out focused. The heart is changed and renewed and then through that our actions and behaviors stem from this internal change. The gospel causes us to boast in the Cross of Jesus, it is counter cultural, it is radical and it calls all of us to be renewed and

redeemed. It changes our self image, which in turn changes how we interact with and love others.

Let's learn to carry one another's burdens, stay content and remain in love, as we boast in the transformative power of the gospel and the cross.

Let's pray...

As you go today remember to carry one another's burdens, stay content, and remain in love.