

Get Your GroupOn

Galatians 6:1-5



“Carry one another’s burdens; in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. For if anyone considers himself to be something when he is nothing, he deceives himself.” Galatians 6:2-3

Main Point: You will find true caring in group life.

Introduction: Use the following questions to introduce the topic of discussion -

As a child, do you remember doing anything wrong that you didn’t get caught for? Did you ever confess it to your parents?

What’s the heaviest thing you’ve ever lifted (or tried to lift!)?

Too often the church and Christians are seen as people waiting in the wings to pounce on people when they do wrong. What we don’t realize is our calling involved restoring people and walking along side them through the good, bad, and the ugly. Sometimes this means caring enough to take the weight of a situation off of someone’s shoulders and carry it ourselves. In a church small groups can, and should, be the beginning of tough love and true caring during life’s trials.

The VGroup Ministry is a place to:

1) **GET PICKED UP** (v. 1).

To whom does Paul address v.1? Why is this significant?

How does the picture of restoring a broken bone relate to restoring wounded people and those who have a fractured relationship with the Lord? How should this happen through the church?

Pastor Erik said “Christians aren’t called to operate like the animal world does. We’re called to operate as children of God.” How does v.1 indicate a child of God should operate when picking up others out of the mess? What does that look like?

We do well to point out the flaws in others. How can we change our attitude from one of a sin identification tool to being an instrument for healing? What does 1 Thessalonians 5:11 say?

2) **BE HELD UP** (v. 2-4)

When have you carried a physical burden for someone? What about an emotional or spiritual burden? How do the two compare?

How do you accomplish holding up someone else's burden and how does that "fulfill the law of Christ?"

Is it harder to carry someone else's burden, or to allow someone to carry yours? Explain.

What does it mean for someone to boast "in himself alone, and not in respect to someone else?" What kind of attitude does this require? Read Romans 14:13 and 15:7.

3) **GET PREPARED.** (v. 5)

What "load" is Paul referring to and why is he saying we will have to carry it ourselves?

The thought of being accountable to God for our works in this life can be a scary thought. What can we do now to prepare ourselves as a VGroup for that meeting? Refer to James 5:16 for one idea.

How can authenticity in a VGroup be a preemptive strike against the pains of life? Why do we struggle with being open and authentic even though we know it can help us and our relationship with God?

Apply It:

If you are reading this you are most likely part of a small group already. What can you do to bring others into your VGroup fellowship so they can experience life as you do?

Pray:

Pray for the strength to carry one another's burdens. Ask God to give your group the courage to share where they are hurting and what in their walk they struggle with. Pray for the Holy Spirit's leading in finding new people to get connected in your VGroup.

Coming up at VillageChurch:

Postgame at BHS: Sept 29th 10pm

The BROlympics: 6-8th Grade boys. Saturday Oct. 14th 9-12pm in the Student Center.

Discovery Class: October 22nd

Lake Scare-O-Lina: October 22nd