

A LITTLE HELP ON HELP! GAL. 6:1-5

This text informs us of 3 kinds of burdens:

1. Overwhelming burdens
2. Personal responsibility
3. Burdens of sin &/ the consequences thereof

What does Scripture tell us?

I. Help **all** you can!

Galatians 6:2 Bear ye one another's burdens (τὰ βάρη), and so fulfil the law of Christ.

Thoughts:

- We all experience these kinds of burdens
- Burdens we neither caused or could prevent
- Burdens we bear
- Burdens we bear because that's what Christ has done for us
- Burdens we bear and in the bearing of we are blessed

Proverbs 3:27 Withhold **not** good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thine hand to do it. Proverbs 3:28 Say **not** unto thy neighbour, Go, and come again, and to morrow I will give; when thou hast it by thee.

Proverbs 11:25 The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself.

Proverbs 13:7 There is that maketh himself rich, yet hath nothing: there is that maketh himself poor, yet hath great riches.

Proverbs 19:17 He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD; and that which he hath given will he pay him again.

Proverbs 22:9 He that hath a bountiful eye shall be blessed; for he giveth of his bread to the poor.

Proverbs 28:27 He that giveth unto the poor shall not lack: but he that hideth his eyes shall have many a curse.

Galatians 6:10 As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

The intuitive / instinctive question of the Christian: What can I do to help?

II. Don't help those you **shouldn't** help!

Galatians 6:3 For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself. Galatians 6:4 But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another. Galatians 6:5 For every man shall bear **his own burden** (τὸ ἴδιον φορτίον).

Thoughts:

- All people have responsibility burdens
- These are the things / stuff of life
- A person must grow into their responsibility
- The goal of parenting is to help the child be / become young responsible adults

2 Thessalonians 3:6 Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us. 2 Thessalonians 3:7 For yourselves know how ye ought to follow us: for we behaved not ourselves disorderly among you; 2 Thessalonians 3:8 Neither did we eat any man's bread for nought; but wrought with labour and travail night and day, that we might not be chargeable to any of you: 2 Thessalonians 3:9 Not because we have not power, but to make ourselves an ensample unto you to follow us. 2 Thessalonians 3:10 For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that **if any would not work, neither should he eat.** 2 Thessalonians 3:11 For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies. 2 Thessalonians 3:12 Now them that are such we command and exhort by our Lord Jesus Christ, that with quietness they work, and eat their own bread.

1 Thessalonians 4:11 And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you; 1 Thessalonians 4:12 That ye may walk honestly toward them that are without, and that ye may have lack of nothing.

Ephesians 4:28 Let him that stole steal **no** more: **but rather** let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.

1 Timothy 5:3 Honour widows that are widows indeed. **1 Timothy 5:4** But if any widow have **children (τέκνα)** or **nephews (ἑκγόνῳ)**, let them learn first to shew piety at home, and to requite their parents: for that is good and acceptable before God. **1 Timothy 5:5** Now she that is a widow indeed, and desolate, trusteth in God, and continueth in supplications and prayers night and day. **1 Timothy 5:6** But she that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth. **1 Timothy 5:7** And these things give in charge, that they may be blameless. **1 Timothy 5:8** But **if** any provide **not** for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith (τὴν πίστιν), and is (ἔστιν) worse than an infidel (ἀπίστου).

➤ **We should not bear that burden**

➤ **To do so is not only wrong/unbiblical/disobedience but it also doesn't help**

Deuteronomy 24:19 When thou cuttest down thine harvest in thy field, and hast forgot a sheaf in the field, thou shalt not go again to fetch it: it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless, and for the widow: that the LORD thy God may bless thee in all the work of thine hands.

Deuteronomy 24:20 When thou beatest thine olive tree, thou shalt not go over the boughs again: it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless, and for the widow.

Deuteronomy 24:21 When thou gatherest the grapes of thy vineyard, thou shalt not glean it afterward: it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless, and for the widow.

III. Help if the help **doesn't hurt you!**

Galatians 6:1 Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault (ἐν τινι παραπτώματι), **ye** which are spiritual (ὁμεις οἱ πνευματικοί), restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.

...has a problem with porn.

...struggles with drinking.

...can't get off drugs.

...is on his / her 13th "marriage"

...is addicted to gambling.

...are mad at Pdubbs and LCBC.

...never submit to any church / stay in any church for long.

When should you be the one to help?

- **Are you indwelt by the Spirit?**
- **Are you controlled & empowered by the Spirit?**
- **Can you approach the individual & this crisis humbly / meekly**
- **Do you know yourself?**
- **Do you know why you want to help?**
- **Is their struggle your (maybe secret) struggle?**
- **Are you prepared for their onslaught of self-justification?**

Reasons to avoid / never help / stop helping:

- **You feel sorry for them**
- **You & ... are a lot alike**
- **You have the same issues / weaknesses**
- **You like to rescue stray dogs and cats**
- **Your "help" **never** seems to help!!!**