

# Free to Serve

## Galatians 5-6

A Family's Core Values

## Galatians

Christ has set us free

**5:13-15: Free to serve**

**5:16-18: 2 Roads: flesh or Spirit**

Freedom ≠ do what I want

Freedom = living in the Spirit

**5:19-24**

Works of the flesh: unholy and unloving

Fruit of the Spirit: glory of God and love

**5:25-26: If we have new life from the Spirit then we *must* live like the Spirit**

**6:1-2**

Help people with the physical, emotional, or spiritual load that is threatening to crush them

**6:3-6: Each person answers to God**

**6:7-10: Serving by the Spirit brings a good harvest**

## The Big Idea

**The Spirit in us frees us (and compels us) to serve others (especially Christians) with the hope of a rich harvest in Christ**

## What are we to do?

**Love in action = carry each other's burdens**

Pray for the Spirit in us to transform us

Pray for good opportunities

All kinds of burdens

using all kinds of gifts

with appropriate boundaries

Always as an expression of love

Practice

**without growing weary**

**with wisdom**

**especially among Christians**

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." John 13:34-35

Because serving in love is what God does



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### Reflection Questions for later today or this week...

1. In what sense are we set free in Christ?
2. What does it mean to be set free to be a servant of others? How is that “freedom”?
3. How have you been served and helped by others?
4. How have you been served and helped by Christ?
5. What does it look like to “carry each other’s burdens”? How is that a fulfillment of what Christ expects of His people?
6. What helps you not to become weary in doing good?
7. What does it look like for you to do good to all people?
8. What does it look like to do good especially to other Christians?

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### Things to process in Life Groups

1. What are some of the burdens that people in your group have?
2. What might it look like to carry each other’s burdens in your group?
3. What are dangers you want to avoid when you seek to carry each other’s burdens in your group? How might you be able to avoid those dangers?
4. What might it look like for a church to be characterized by this kind of love in action? What are some of the dangers? How could we avoid those dangers?
5. Think especially about ways that helping others might hurt them (such as reinforcing laziness, or treating them as children). How would you describe this danger? How can we avoid it?
6. What makes carrying each other’s burdens different, and perhaps more challenging, in a diverse community?
7. What might be challenging about receiving help from others? What are some possible temptations? How might we avoid them?

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### Conversation starters with people in daily life, whether or not they are Christians

- How has someone else helped you in significant ways? Perhaps they helped you carry a burden that was too big to carry alone.
- Helping others can be wearying. What makes helping others wearying? What helps you not grow weary?