



Message Series -

“...By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you **love** one another.” John 13:35

OVERALL QUESTION: What does **Love** “**LOOK**” like from the outside?
How will someone **see** that you “love one another”?

Today - # 2: **Wise** Love

Galatians 6

 Get your Journal out or you phone to take notes!

Opening Prayer

- Take us on a journey
- Open our ears and hearts
- Stop us from being offended
- Convict us to align with you
- Help us to grow!
- Expand your kingdom, thy will be done!

Every message in the Series will land the same way

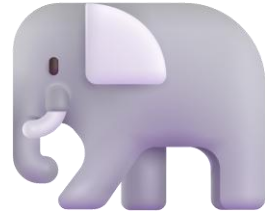
Gospel, application, accountability.



- A reference to Jesus and His good news
- One clear practical **application**
- One **action** to take this week
- One person to **share** it with that was not here today
- One close friend to **spur** you on and **support** each other in this task
- **Each will only help you grow stronger – no condemnation intended.**
(If you are struggling let me know.)
- But... get comfortable with being uncomfortable

Review Last Message

- Who can remember what it was about?



Review: Message 1

Speech is a 2-Sided Coin: **Heads** - Build people up, **Tails** - Tame the tongue, stop gossip.

**Every word you speak is either
building the 'Church'...
or burning it down. (Eph 4/James 3)**

Challenge: Have you started outdoing one
another in giving others honour? (Rom 12)

Today: One Coin, One Truth— We Must Have Wise Love

- Two sides of the same coin
- Galatians 6:1-10

(In your small groups go over this again
SOS: Say Obey Share & Use Your Coin)

- ¹ Brothers, if anyone is caught in any **transgression**, you who are spiritual should **restore** him in a spirit of **gentleness**. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be **tempted**. ² **Bear one another's burdens**, and so fulfill the law of Christ. ³ For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. ⁴ But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor. ⁵ **For each will have to bear his own load**.
- ⁶ Let the one *who is taught* the word share all good things with the *one who teaches*. ⁷ Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. ⁸ For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. ⁹ And let us **not grow weary of doing good**, for in due **season** we will reap, if we **do not give up**. ¹⁰ So then, **as we have opportunity**, let us do **good to everyone**, and **especially** to those who are of the household of faith.

One Coin – Wise Love - with Two Commands

Heads - Command 1

Bear one another's burdens
(Quite often a group effort)

“**Keep on** carrying each other’s burdens.”
Present active imperative (2nd person plural)

Tails - Command 2

Each will bear
his/her own load

“For **each will** bear his own ‘load’.”
“Carry what **you should** carry in your ‘pack’”
Future active indicative (3rd person singular)

They sound opposite, but together they form mature
love.

What Love Is:

Real Love always costs you something.

- Love carries **others**
- Love takes responsibility for **ourselves**

Both are required

Not either/or

BUT both/and

Side 1 Heads: Burdens

- Burden is a “**crushing weight**”. (Gloss)
- Too heavy for one person to “lift with their hands”. (Bear – Gloss)
- Crisis | suffering | failure | restoration
- Requires help or they will fail if left alone.
- **Command: Step in. Do not stand back.**

Examples of Burdens

- Grief and loss
- Addiction struggles
- Financial crisis
- Serious sin & restoration
- Broken relationships (e.g. affair, hidden immorality, etc.)

How to Bear Someone's Burden

- Listen first!
- Pray and walk with them
- Step in, don't stand back
- Enter their pain
- Give practical help + an emotional presence – **as you can...**
- Restore them gently
- Share the weight

Be Wise:

- Will it require an individual or a group effort?
- Don't give the Devil a foothold in your life if you are dealing with an area that you too may be tempted.
- **DRSABC - Tommy Shard, Gary Daily**

Warning – When we step in...

We are not to gossip, control, or be prideful – **but humble**, we too fall from time to time!

But...

- Not everything is a burden
- There is another side of the coin
- Personal responsibility

Side 2 -Tails: Loads

- Load is your personal '**backpack**' (Gloss)
- Your assigned responsibilities
- Your daily calling
- **You must** carry it
- God has given it to you to carry

Examples of Loads

- Your relationship and obedience to God
- Your attitude to people
- Your family
- Your work or calling

Some reasons for a load (and good)

- We pick up some **voluntarily**
- God's Loads:
- **Growth and Maturity** – James 1:2-4, Rom 5:3–5, Luk 9:23, 1 Pet 1:6-7
- **Course Correction** (not discipline as in punishment) - Heb 12:6–11
- **Consequences** for our actions (a teaching tool) - 6:7–8
- **Stewardship** and Responsibility- Luke 16:10, Matt 28:18-20,
- **Preparation** for greater things - Moses, David, Joseph, 2 Cor 1:3-4
- God teaching us to **trust** him - 2 Cor 12:9-10
- **Witnessing** - Matt 5:16, 1 Pet 2:12

Command: Carry Your Own Load

- No **outsourcing** obedience
- Stop **blaming** others
- **Stand** before God personally
- **Own** your walk
- **Identify** and **correct** your **mistakes! Learn!**

Warning

- Don't turn loads into burdens
- Avoid victim mentality. You are a Victor in Christ!
- Don't expect others to carry your calling
- Avoid spiritual laziness
- Pride by the **doer** or the **receiver** will derail this.

The Tension Between Burdens and Loads

- Jump in or Stand back?
- **Love is wise**

The Two Extremes to Avoid

- **Ditch 1: Cold Independence**
 - “Not my problem” or “I don’t need anyone’s help”
 - Fails to carry burdens / Accept help
- **Ditch 2: Enabling Dependency/Co-Dependency**
 - “I’ll fix everything for you” / “I’ll let you do everything for me”
 - Removes responsibility
- 👉 **Truth: Both are **unloving**. Unhealthy.**
- **Stand on the road in between**

“Delay Action”

- Most people act too quickly:
- Don't fix immediately
- Ask questions first
- Pray before acting
- 👉 **Rule: “Slow down before you step in.”**

Diagnostic Questions

- Am I helping carry burdens?
- Or avoiding people in need?
- Am I carrying my own load?
- Or expecting others to carry it?

What to say:

- **Instead of:**

- “I’ll take care of that for you”

- **Ask:**

- “What part of this is hardest right now?”
- “What have you tried already?”
- “How can I support you without taking over?”
- 👉 This builds discernment for you and their confidence.

Ask 3 questions before acting:

- **1. Is this crushing or carrying?**
 - Crushing = burden → step in
 - Carrying = normal responsibility → step back
- **2. Are they trying or avoiding?**
 - Trying → support them
 - Avoiding → don't rescue them. (Is this a repeating pattern?)
- **3. Will my help strengthen or weaken them?**
 - Strengthens → do it
 - Weakens / creates dependence → don't

- 🙌 “Help in a way that **restores** strength, not replaces responsibility.”
- 🙌 “Mature love knows when to step in—and when to step back.”

Best Example: Good News of Jesus Christ


- For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. (Rom 3:23)
- For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Rom 6:23)
- 📦 **Our burden** (sin, guilt, judgment) there is **NOTHING** we can do to fix this!
- “The Good News is this:
**You have a burden you cannot carry...
and Jesus didn't tell you to try harder —
He carried it for you.**”
- Now He calls us to do the same for others
— **as we can, in our seasons**



Call to Action This Week

- Identify one **burden** to help carry
- Identify one **load** you have been putting off and take responsibility for it
- Find someone who you can **share** this with that was not here today?
- Find someone who you can **trust** to keep you honest with yourself?

Conclusion

- **“Don’t do for someone what God is expecting them to do!**
- **But always help with what they cannot do alone.”**
-  **Prayer - to hit this bullseye today!**