

Group Gathering Question:

How comfortable would you feel with doing an in person Home Group on someone's back porch or deck or driveway in the month of June? Would you welcome someone else to join you temporarily who doesn't have a group? (Feel free to share how you feel and the group may decide to continue meeting virtually or take a break.)

Read this week's scripture and discuss:

1. Describe a time when you experienced great community and say what was great about it? (some examples might be being part of a sports team, choir or band; being on a service or mission project or church retreat or trip).
2. As we look at Galatians 6:2, what can being in community teach us? How can being in community shape us?
3. When was there a time that someone carried a burden for you and how did they do so?
4. What sort of burdens do your friends, family, neighbors carry? How do you (or could you) help them to carry these burdens?
5. Immediately before Galatians 6 is the famous fruit of the Spirit passage in Galatians 5:22-26. What might the fruit of the Spirit teach us about carrying each other's burdens?
6. Has another believer ever corrected and restored you (see Galatians 6:1)? If so, what was that like?
7. Read Galatians 6:7-8. Is it true that charity begins at home? Why or why not?

prayer requests

- > Prayers of comfort for the family of Maria Alarcon, who passed away, for Allyson Ball and Gary Ball in the loss of Allyson's mother, and for Alec Henderson's family in his passing.
- > Prayers of wisdom for church leaders, for local, state and national government leaders.
- > Prayers for those who have lost jobs, are ill, or recovering from illness.

This week, we move away from the Psalms to Galatians. Specifically, the sermon will focus on community as spelled out in Galatians 6:2, while some of our questions will address verses before and after Galatians 6:2. What is like to carry each other's burdens? That can take a number of different forms and the sermon and video interviews will touch on those. We are made to be in relationship with God, with our families and church family, and with our neighbor. When we put each other first before our own interests, we can find joy in carrying each other's burdens.

1. Ask your group to share stories of good community. They can come from a variety of sources. Let those examples inspire you to find more community.
2. Take a look again at 6:2 and read it before answering the question. You might read 6:10 as well. Then share about community based on those 2 verses.
3. To remember how someone helped you our carried your burdens can be motivating to help others and to carry their burdens as well.
4. This question should simply help us to think about observing and noticing other's burdens and ways we might come alongside them. If you can identify an actual burden a neighbor has, think about how you or your family might meet that need.
5. Read Galatians 5:22-26. Things like gentleness, love, peace, patience and generosity speak to the character traits we can have through the Spirit and the traits we will need to carry each other's burdens. We can't forever help others in our own power. God's Spirit must be in us to sustain us and help us or someday we will be empty.
6. Part of being brothers and sisters in Christ and carrying each other's burdens may be to gently correct and restore one another. This happens often in healthy ways in the AA movement. We can also do this within families and with close friends we trust. One of the ways to open ourselves up to correction is to ask for help or advice from people we trust.
7. Galatians 6:7 says in part, "you reap whatever you sow." We are called to take care of our own families, just as Jesus asked John to care for his mother Mary when he went to the cross. However, we can't stop there. God calls us to care for others, our neighbors, and our communities throughout the New Testament.