



LOVE
YOUR
CHURCH

8 GREAT THINGS ABOUT BEING A CHURCH MEMBER



belong



welcome



gather



care



serve



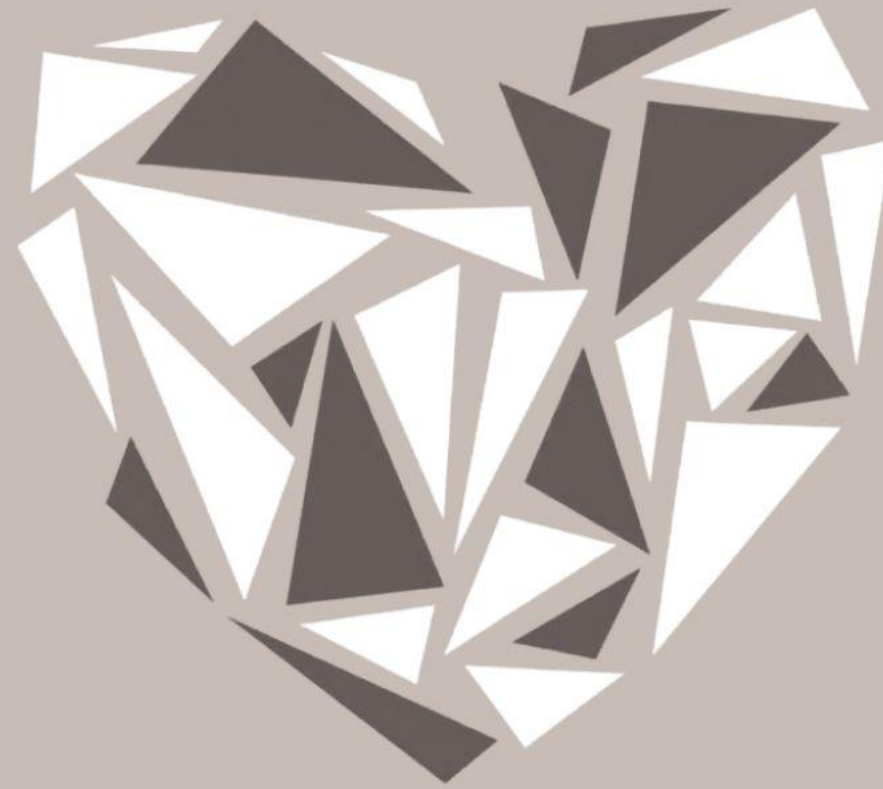
honour



witness



send



care



LOVING YOUR CHURCH
BY WALKING THROUGH LIFE TOGETHER



The 'One Another' Focus of the New Testament

**"A new commandment I give to you,
that you love one another"**

(John 13:34)

"Encourage one another."

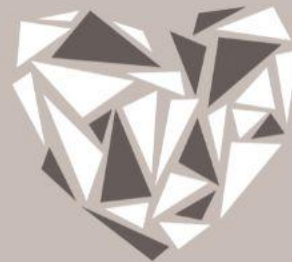
(1 Thessalonians 4:18)

"Be kind to one another"

(Ephesians 4:32)

**"Submit to one another out of
reverence for Christ."**

(Ephesians 5:2)



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The Context of Galatians 5 & 6

A turning point from the **theological** to the **practical**



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The Context of Galatians 5 & 6

A turning point from the **theological** to the **practical**

Building on his argument that Christ has **set us free**



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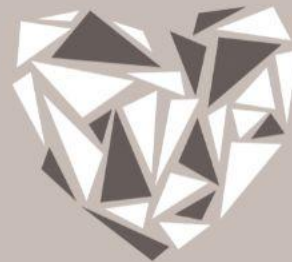


The Context of Galatians 5 & 6

A turning point from the **theological** to the **practical**

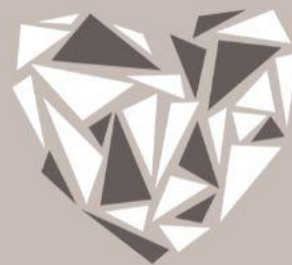
Building on his argument that Christ has **set us free**

Now **we are free**, we need to **live like it**



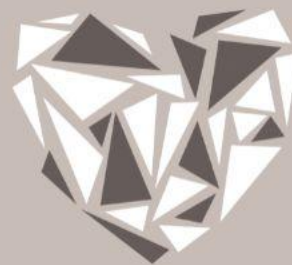
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What Does Freedom Look Like?



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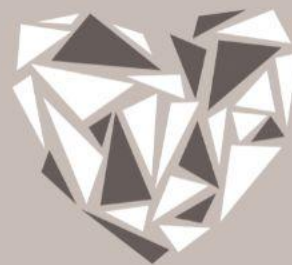
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What Does Freedom Look Like?

“Christ has truly set us free. Now make sure that you stay free... you have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don’t use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love.”

(Galatians 5:1, 13)



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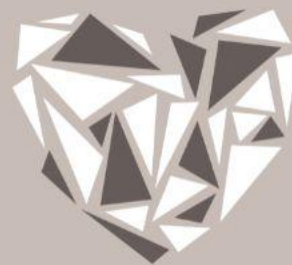
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(Galatians 5:1, 13)

“Somewhere between legalism and licence lies true Christian liberty.”

(Warren Wiersbe)



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What Does Freedom Look Like?

“For the whole law can be summed up in this one command: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’ But if you are always biting and devouring one another, watch out! Beware of destroying one another.”

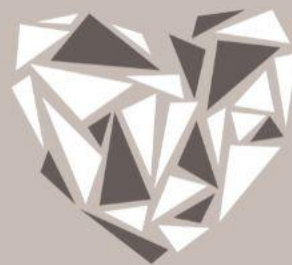
(Galatians 5:14-15)



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**What does it mean to be
a caring and loving
church family?**



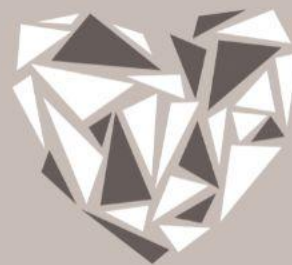
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Marks of a Caring Church Family

“So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives.”

(Galatians 5:16)



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“The Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control...

Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit’s leading... Let us not become conceited, or provoke one another, or be jealous of one another.”

(Galatians 5:22-26)



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“The Spirit-filled life is not so much about dramatic and miraculous encounters or inner mystical experiences as about faithful Christians living in joyful devotion to Christ and one another. We are to display the fruit of the Spirit in the context of familial care.”

(Tony Merida)



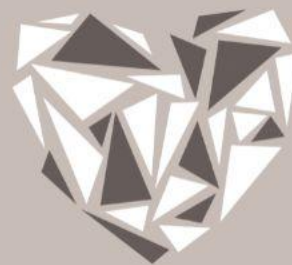
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Marks of a Caring Church Family

PASTORAL CARE

(pastor – shepherd – caring as Jesus cares)



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Marks of a Caring Church Family

PASTORAL CARE

(pastor – shepherd – caring as Jesus cares)

FORMAL

*Structured, organised,
on behalf of the church,
conducted within guidelines,
'safe, consistent and
accountable'*



care



Marks of a Caring Church Family

PASTORAL CARE

(pastor – shepherd – caring as Jesus cares)

FORMAL

*Structured, organised,
on behalf of the church,
conducted within guidelines,
'safe, consistent and
accountable'*

INFORMAL

*Between friends,
responsibility of
whole church family*



care



Marks of a Caring Church Family

PASTORAL CARE

(pastor – shepherd – caring as Jesus cares)

“As church members, we should realise that pastors are not the only ones who can care for us. The whole church is called to give care to one another.”

(Tony Merida)

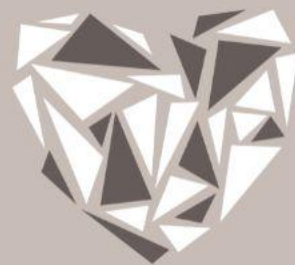


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Marks of a Caring Church Family

1. Seeking to **restore** one another



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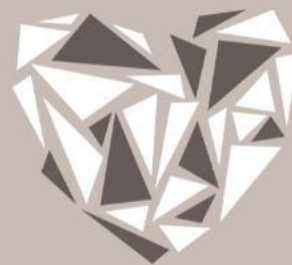


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1. Seeking to **restore** one another

“Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently.”

(Galatians 6:1)



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Marks of a Caring Church Family

1. Seeking to **restore** one another

“Spirit-filled Christianity looks like seeing the wayward brother or sister so that you may gently restore them. In a privatised, individualistic culture, some may find this bothersome – but it’s biblical Christianity. I am my brother’s keeper; and I need a brother to be my keeper too!”

(Tony Merida)

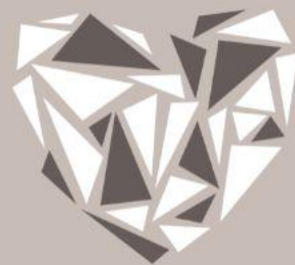


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Marks of a Caring Church Family

1. Seeking to **restore** one another
2. Willing to **carry** one another's **burdens**



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Marks of a Caring Church Family

2. Willing to **carry** one another's **burdens**

“**Carry each other's burdens...**”

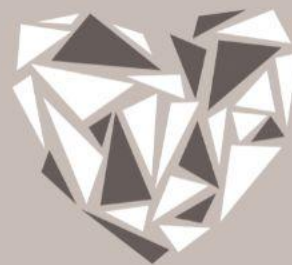
(Galatians 6:2)

BAROS – βάρος – *heavy weight*

“**For each one should carry their own load.**”

(Galatians 6:5)

PHORTION – φορτίον – *cargo, load*



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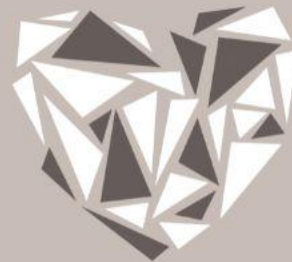


Marks of a Caring Church Family

2. Willing to **carry** one another's **burdens**

“If you think you are too important to help someone, you are only fooling yourself. You are not that important.”

(Galatians 6:3)



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Marks of a Caring Church Family

2. Willing to **carry** one another's **burdens**



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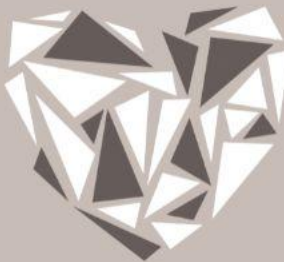
Marks of a Caring Church Family

2. Willing to **carry** one another's **burdens**



**"I can't carry it for you,
but I can carry you."**

(Samwise Gangee)



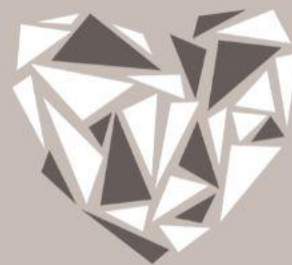
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Marks of a Caring Church Family

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2. Willing to **carry** one another's **burdens**



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Marks of a Caring Church Family

1. Seeking to **restore** one another
2. Willing to **carry** one another's **burdens**
3. Looking for opportunities to **do good**



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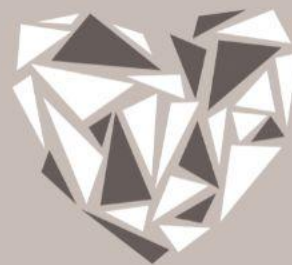


Marks of a Caring Church Family

3. Looking for opportunities to do good

“ ... whenever we have the opportunity, we should do good to everyone – especially to those in the family of faith.”

(Galatians 6:10)



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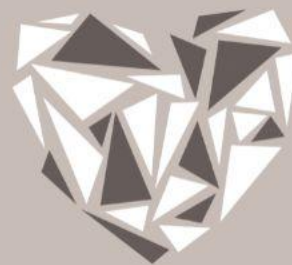


Marks of a Caring Church Family

3. Looking for opportunities to **do good**

“**THEREFORE**, whenever we have the opportunity, we should do good to everyone – especially to those in the family of faith.”

(Galatians 6:10)



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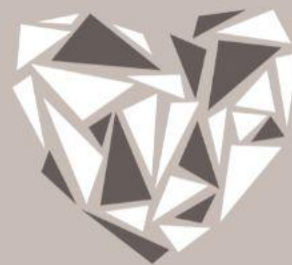


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3. Looking for opportunities to **do good**

**“The day together will be unfruitful
without the day alone.”**

(Deitrich Bonhoeffer)



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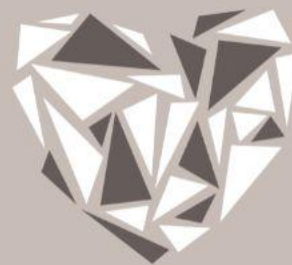


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3. Looking for opportunities to **do good**

“Every Christian can become discouraged in doing good deeds Paul says keep sowing. Keep loving one another. Keep resisting bickering with others. Keep bearing one another’s burdens. Keep preaching the gospel, because Jesus is worth it... Believers should be marked by practical goodness.”

(Tony Merida)



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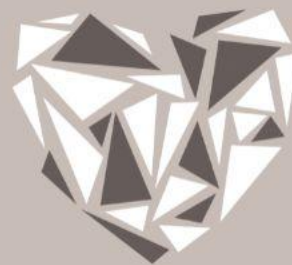


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3. Looking for opportunities to **do good**

“This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters.”

(1 John 3:16)

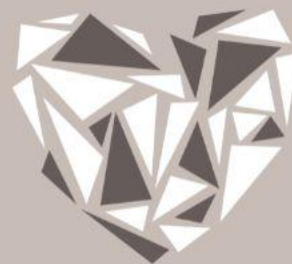


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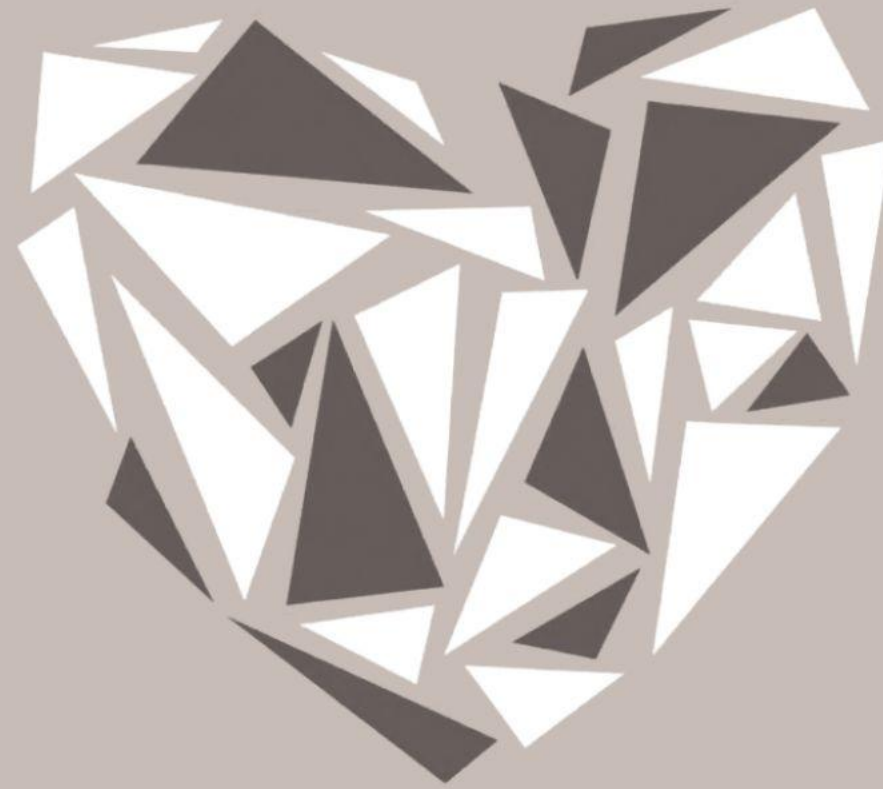
Free to Care – Care to Witness

**“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.”**

(John 13:34-35)



care



care



LOVING YOUR CHURCH
BY WALKING THROUGH LIFE TOGETHER