

"The Original Social Network"

1. Read Galatians 6:1–5. What important truth is taught in the two statements that seem to contradict each other: *"Carry each other's burdens"* and *"each one should carry their own load"*?

In what ways can you carry a fellow believer's burdens? Based on the context of verse 5, what do you think it means to carry your own load?

2. We have responsibility for one another (e.g., Romans 15:1–2) and we all belong to each other (Romans 12:5). Yet Scripture warns us against being meddling busy-bodies (2 Thessalonians 3:11; 1 Timothy 5:13; 1 Peter 4:15). How do you distinguish between appropriate concern and interest in a fellow believer's life and meddling (poking your nose where it doesn't belong)?

Marriage: public or private? In what ways do marriages impact the general welfare of a society? What aspects of marriage are appropriately kept private?

3. Read 1 Corinthians 5. What reasons does Paul give for taking public action in this situation? How does his advice concerning fellow believers differ from his advice concerning our dealings with those outside the church? Why?

Recurring Questions

- » How have you seen God working in your life or the lives of those around you this week?
- » What prayer requests would you like to share with the group, including prayer for any spiritual struggles you may be experiencing?