

The Neighborly Thing to Do Galatians 6:1-6

When we imply that our works are for God and not our neighbor, we perpetuate the idea that God's love for us is dependent on what we do instead of on what Christ has done ... Passive righteousness tells us that God does not need our good works. Active righteousness tells us that our neighbor does. The aim and direction of good works are horizontal, not vertical.

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The thread leading in (Galatians 5)

The underlying principle for walking by the Spirit:

Love your neighbor as yourself
(Galatians 5:14)

Walking by the Spirit negates walking by the flesh

Living by the Spirit displays Christ in us, the hope of glory
(Colossians 1:27)

Keeping in step with the Spirit benefits the lives of others

The fruit of the Spirit is not primarily for my benefit

Neighborly Lessons for legalists (Galatians 6:1-3)

Needy Neighbor #1: The fallen

The key: It's not just what you do, it's how you do it.

Who are those who live by the Spirit?

They're not the smartest, the most prominent, or the most winsome.

How they're tempted:

Needy Neighbor #2 - The burdened

The mandate:

Awareness without action is nothing; action without awareness is counterproductive

The principles for those who live by the Spirit

The principle of humility

The principle of personal accountability