Pastor Demetric Felton Sr. February 3, 2019

**Two Are Better Than One**

Galatians 6:1-5

**Key Truth:** Living in community with other Christians removes the mask of self-sufficiency.

1. We each have a responsibility to care for one another.

 A. Care comes in many different forms.

 1. We are called to restore a sinning brother/sister.

 2. We are called to bear one another’s burden.

 B. This is made possible when we are intentional about doing

 life together.

2. Not everyone is qualified to correct a sinning brother/sister.

 A. A mature Christian skilled in grace and mercy.

 B. We must be gentle and cause no further harm.

 C. Start by examining your own spiritual walk. Matthew 7:1-6

3. Remember that everything we do must be rooted in love.

4. How to bear one another’s burdens:

 A. Do the opposite of Job’s friends.

 1. Don’t presume to know the will of God in that person’s

 life.

 2. Understand that all suffering is not the result of sinful

 behavior in a person’s life.

 3. Talk less and listen more.

 4. Remember we are not called to pull others out of

 suffering we are called to walk alongside them during

 suffering.

**Taking It Beyond The Walls:** Thank Jesus for loving you and showing you how to love other people. Ask Him to help our church become an authentic spiritual community in which sin is lovely confronted, encouragement is given, and resources are shared.

**Connection Group Homework**

Looking back at your notes from this week’s teaching was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

In relationships, do you tend to have a good sense of what’s going on with other people, or do you keep your distance? Why?

Read Ecclesiastes 4:9-12: When has a friend helped you through a difficult time? How did they do it?

Why do you think the charge to restore a person comes before the charge to carry one another’s burdens?

Read Galatians 6:3-5: From Paul’s words here, what practice keeps you from comparing yourself to others?

Why do you think comparison is so much more common than spiritual self-examination?

To bear one another’s burdens, we have to know what these burdens are. How can we ensure this group is a place people feel safe sharing their burdens?

What burdens do you have that you would like to see lifted? How can this group help you in that?

Read Ruth 1:12-18: Why did Ruth come alongside Naomi and refuse to leave her? What steps can you take to become the type of person other believers know and trust will restore them and carry their burdens when needed?