We GET To:

After my stroke, it took months before I was physically well enough to even go outside the hospital, but it took many more months after that to be emotionally well enough to go back to church. To be truly seen and known in the midst of my losses made them that much more real. But waiting until I was fully healed and feeling great to rejoin my community would have been a big mistake. If I'd waited to come back until some future milestone was reached, I may have found myself a long way down the road, feeling alone and bitter and still not feeling healed or great. Instead, when I wrestled with my new normal in the context of community, the struggle became part of our story–not only of my suffering, but of the power of community in general. (Katherine Wolf, *Suffer Strong*)

All passages, unless otherwise noted, are from the New International Version of the Bible.
You can download the free YouVersion Bible app that includes the NIV translation at your favorite app store.

message notes

November 28 & 29, 2026
Andres "Dre" Carias

Freedom

Burden Bearing
Galatians 6:2-5

So I say, ***walk*** by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. (Galatians 5:16)

Since ***we live*** by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. (Galatians 5:25)

- This Paradigm Is Both:
    - _____ And _____.

message notes

A New/ Renewed Understanding of Church

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.
(Romans 12:2)

1) Church Is A _____ _____ Kind Of _____.

Why didn't Paul throw in the towel on the New Testament church? For the same reason that Jesus didn't. Church is family. Membership in a local church means joining your imperfect self to many other imperfect selves to form an imperfect community that, through Jesus, embarks on a journey towards a better future… together. (Scott Sauls, *Jesus Outside the Lines*)

2) Church Is Where We _____, Embrace The _____, And _____ _____ With One Another.

(Joseph H. Hellerman, *When the Church Was a Family*)

Bearing Our Family's Burdens

Galatians 6:2-5

1) Burden Bearing – Is _____ Others As Christ _____ Us.

2) Burden Bearing – Is Giving _____, Not Necessarily _____.

- _____
- _____

3) Burden Bearing – Is Done By _____, Yet _____ People, Not _____ Ones.