

"Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the Law of Christ." Galatians 6:2 KJV



Mules are sometimes obnoxious, but still pull heavy loads. Believers all have our eccentricities and flaws. You like chocolate and I don't. Or you're quiet and I'm loud. It makes no difference what it is; we are to bear or endure each other's faults just as Christ suffered our indignities and died for us! *"God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were YET SINNERS, Christ died for us. Looking unto Jesus the Author and Finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider Him that endured such contradiction of sinners against Himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds."*

The other meaning is to help one another with their responsibilities or labors. If another believer is sad or struggling, we are to aid them as best we can; from not saying a word to helping them lift their burden. Grief is one of the heaviest loads we bear and it is only endured alone, but if a brother walks with us in silence, it becomes a bit more bearable. If Jesus loves and cares for you, the least I can do is put up with and help you and visa-versa. This is an instruction concerning treatment of fellow believers, siblings in the faith. We tend to be more tolerant of unbelievers than we are of each other. We say, "Well, Christians should know better!" Are you flawless? Perhaps a facet of your personality, of which you are unaware, grates on the senses of others. We each have flaws rooted in human character weakness, but if we each strive to draw nearer to Christ, we will become more tolerant of one another by virtue of the fact that as we get closer to perfection, the more our own faults are revealed and the more hesitant we are to condemn another's. We don't scold babies for crying or burping. We each grow in Grace at a different pace. *"Be ye kind one to another."* You wouldn't berate a first grader for immaturity. You would simply relate to them at their level, not condemning, but accommodating and teaching. We seek close fellowship with someone who is nearer our own level of spiritual maturity while still including those with less. As with a child, you would patiently teach them a more perfect way. *"In lowliness of mind, let each esteem other better than themselves."* A friend used to say, "You can learn from everyone; either how to do it better or how NOT to do it." Never think that you cannot learn from a child. Children teach us patience and tolerance while demonstrating to us how we appear to God. We may not love each other as we should, but for Jesus' sake we'll put up with each other. *"But speaking the Truth in Love, may GROW UP into Him in ALL things, which is the Head, even Christ: From whom the whole Body (the Church) fitly joined together and compacted (supported and held together) by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in Love."* As knowledge of the Word of God increases, so will understanding and wisdom as we draw near to the One Who forgave us our greatest debt!

Brothers and sisters, short and tall,
It's really hard to like them all,
But if we cling to God above,
Then we will all the brethren love. ~CGP

Faults are as easy to spot as a smudge on a white dress. Reject evil whispers and look for righteousness in one another. *"And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works."* Liking and loving are two entirely different things. Jesus didn't say, "LIKE one another," He said, "LOVE one another!" When a fellow believer helps me that I know doesn't like me, the Love of Christ in them rebukes me and encourages my faith!

"Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them." Psalms 119:165 KJV