

Lessons through a windshield Part VII

Load Limit



Hebrews 12:1,2

Intro: How many think a 300 lb man could be a professional horse racing jockey? Why not? Because they exceed the weight limit!

Why are these weight limit signs put up on bridges and in buildings? Because too much weight can break the bridge and disrupt movement along a highway or damage the floor of a building etc.

The race of life is a lot like that. It is a fast race of 70 or 80 years and they are over in a flash.

Is your fast paced life journey being hindered by having too much extra weight to carry?

Hebrews 12:1,2 said to, *lay aside the encumbrances and sin that besets us.*

In other words, am I carrying things in my life that hinder me from running a fast and good race?

What are those things we should throw off so we can be winning jockeys through life's race course?

Lets look at load limits we often carry and some we should carry.

Remember, God will supernaturally hold up bridges crossed with extra heavy loads of the right things.

He will allow other bridges to break if crossed when the load limit burdens are made up of the wrong things.

T.S. First, lets think about a

I. A good weight to keep

A. The weight of **grace**

Grace towards yourself and also toward others. In a life container filled with grace you will find such things as

A compassionate heart This will help lessen the heavy weight in the lives of others whose bridges are about to crumble under them.

Do you have a compassionate heart for others because your life is weighed down with God's grace? With a compassionate, grace filled heart, and willing hands and feet you will want to seek to help others not to fall down under their overweight load?

II. Bad weights to throw off

When we come to bridges on the narrow road we may need to throw off some weights. What are some of these bad things? First,

A. The weight of **the sin of pride**

John Ruskin once said, Pride is at the bottom of all great mistakes.

It is a big mistake to try and cross the bridges on life's narrow road, if the load limit is exceeded because of a head, that is extra heavy from being filled with pride.

I Peter 5:5 says *God is opposed to the proud.* T.S. Eliot was right when he said, most of the trouble in the world is caused by people wanting to be important.

You can safely cross bridges w/o being overloaded with pride once you realize God believes you are already a somebody.

Notice the cross as an example of this belief of God that you are a somebody or else he would not have died for you. Right??

Then we should throw off

B. The weight of **grudges and bitterness**

Ephesians 4:26 tells us *not to let the sun go down on our wrath.*

Heb. 12:15 warns us *See to it that no one comes short of the grace of God. That no root of bitterness springing up causes trouble and by it many be defiled.*

How about you, are you overloaded with the weight of bitterness, anger, grudges? Are you holding on to some painful memory of an insult, criticism, demanding expectation or other hurt?

Unless you off load that extra weight your bridges in life will crumble and will go down into the morass of defeat and discouragement.

C. The weight of **selfishness**

People are basically selfish and it is a heavy burden that breaks down bridges to many relationships and ministry opportunities.

The Scripture admonishes us in Philippians 2:3,4 with these words aimed directly at the issue of selfishness. *Don't do anything from selfish ambition or from a cheap desire to boast, but be humble toward one another, always considering others better than yourselves. Instead of each person watching out for their own good, watch out for what is better for others.*

Have we exceeded the weight limit in this area? Are some bridges in our relationships and ministry opportunities crumbling under us because of it?

Remember the pungent lines of an early church father Tertullian as he **wrote**, He who lives only to benefit himself confers on the world a benefit when he dies.

Why not be a benefit to the world while you are living, by unloading the extra weight of selfishness and live for others instead?

Finally

D. The weight of **unconfessed sin**

God knows that the weight of unconfessed sin will break down the bridges leading to victory .

The confession of sin removes the bad weight of guilt, and replaces it with the good and light weight of God's love, forgiveness, and his grace.

How about you, are you carrying the weight of unconfessed sin? Is your spiritual life being hindered by this? If so, confess it, accept God's cleansing, forgive yourself, and get on with your walk w/o these extra weights that can cause you to exceed the Load Limit.

May God help us do business in unloading the bad things that are too heavy to carry and loading the good things of His which are just right for all the bridges or floors we must cross in a lifetime.

In closing, we see that w/o these extra weights we can be much more fruitful and less stressed out than if we continue to carry them. Maybe you are reading this and you are burdened down with fear and uncertainty about your future. If you are, I want to leave you something and someone to help relieve that burden.

Just read these next few lines, believe them, believe that Jesus wants to carry your burdens, then do as is says and you can be free of those burdens that seek to weigh you down on your journey.

Realize you are a sinner Romans 3:23

Understand that the payday for sin is death or eternal conscious separation from God. Romans 6:23a

Know that there is a way of escape for you. Romans 6:23b and John 1:12

Desire to escape and pray this or a similar prayer.

"Dear God, I know I am a sinner. I am truly sorry for my sins, and I confess them all to You [name them]. Lord Jesus, forgive all my sins and come into my heart as my Saviour and Lord. I receive You right now. Help me from this time forward to live for You. Thank You for hearing and answering my prayer. In Jesus' name. Amen."

On the _____ day of _____ I became a Christian by inviting Jesus Christ into my life to forgive my sin.

Signed: _____

If you have further questions or have chosen to do this, be sure to let us know so we can help you, pray for you and encourage you in your new life.

You can reach us at lapeerchurch@gmail.com Subject line: (Salvation)