**What’s Your Motive?**

**Galatians 6:2**

Cyclical Inductive Outline Manuscript

**Topic:** Christlikeness

**Subject:** Help others in need

**Complement:** is the way to show love.

**Purpose:** The listeners will show love as the motive of helping other people especially the

believers.

**Introduction**

1. [Motive behind a deed.]

a. In the days when an ice cream sundae cost much less, a 10 year old boy entered a hotel coffee shop and sat at a table. A waitress put a glass of water in front of him.

“How much is an ice cream sundae?”

“50 cents,” replied the waitress.

The little boy pulled his hand out of his pocket and studied a number of coins in it.

“How much is a dish of plain ice cream?” he inquired. Some people were now waiting for a table

and the waitress was a bit impatient.

“35 cents,” she said rudely.

The little boy again counted the coins. “I’ll have the plain ice cream,” he said.

The waitress brought the ice cream, put the bill on the table and walked away. The boy finished

the ice cream, paid the cashier and departed.

When the waitress came back, she began wiping down the table and then swallowed hard at what

she saw. There, placed neatly beside the empty dish, were 15 cents – her tip.

b. This short story is an inspirational and touching story for many people. How can a young boy sacrifice his desire to eat a better ice cream for a waitress whom a stranger to him. It is beyond our thought.

c. However, when we try to analyse the motive behind the action, we can come out with many motives, either good or bad. Let us imagine, that the boy did it so that next time the waitress can give him extra ice cream. Is it possible? (pause)

It is also sometimes become our motive in doing something good. We help our classmates so that next time they can help us.

Another possibility is to be seen by others. Let say the boy live nearby this coffee shop. First, he did this to be known by the waitress that he is a good boy. Then, the waitress will tell this story to her fellow workers and more people will know the boy’s great deeds. (pause)

For some of us, to be known by people around us is matters a lot. No wonder we try to study very hard, help others as often as possible, and sacrifice our time for our fellow classmates or schoolmates.

Or, the boy’s motive is truly to give tips to the waitress based on his kindness and care to the waitress?

1. Today, we will learn from the Scripture about how we should treat our fellow believers as well as why we need to do so. My prayer is that you will be convinced **to do something good with a right motive** [main idea]. Let us today learn the way and the reason of showing compassion to others [restatement].
2. Let us open our Bible in Galatians 6:2. Galatians chapter 6 verse 2. Notice in Galatians 6:2 especially in verse 2a-b, it tells you to…
3. **Help the believers who are in need (Gal. 6a-b).**
4. We should help those who are in need (6a; cf. Gal 6:1).
5. In verse 1a, it says, “Brethren, even if anyone is caught in any trespass…” Those who are caught in sin usually very fragile and weak. They suffer from the guilt of doing sin. What I want to say is, they need help because they are in need.
6. Like what Jesus said that the one who needs a doctor is not a healthy person but the sick one. I am not saying that we can forgive sin like Jesus but we need to do something for those in need.
7. In verse 6a-b saying that we need to “carry each other’s burdens. As believers, we are encouraged to help others when they are weak or in need. I am not talking about “a big action” but simple deeds matters for them. Giving ears to listen to him/her, making time to spend time with him/her, or encouraging him/her through message. To prevent misunderstanding, it is better between the same genders.
8. However, what is our motive of helping others in need? Is it to be accepted by other? Let us keep bearing it in mind, what is our motive of doing good?

(In Gal 6:10, Paul seems being so inclusive by saying, “…let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.” What Paul means by that statement? It means…)

1. We should help the fellow believers (6b).
2. We are able to help everybody (6b; be helpful to everyone, SBC).
   1. As Christians, it should be our nature to help everybody in need. It is not always us to help but as long as we have chance and we are able, it is kind of a “must” for us. A helpful person will be helped by others, but is it our motive?
   2. SBC is the appropriate place to practice this verse. There are many things that we can do to our classmates or schoolmates. A simple greeting and smile or chocolate or an ice cream when they are studying, will help them a lot to experience God’s blessings.
   3. Helping others is the way we express our gratitude of God’s help in our life. Blessed to be blessings.
3. Prioritise the believers (6b).
4. We are a family in Christ (6b; family>friends).

1) How many friends do you have? At least one (point to myself) All of us have friends and some of us have a really good friends. They are even closer than our own family because they always be with us in happy and hard time. And it is not few that someone will sacrifice and do something for their best friend but not for family members.

2) However, Paul reminded us that family is more important than our friends. Family is the first community that God gave to us. Before we even know our friends, our family have shown us wonderful love through their actions. I realized, not everybody has a perfect or good family like what we wish but it is still true that family is more important than our friends.

(That is the first reason why Paul encouraged us to prioritise the family of believers because

family is more important than friends. Then, what is another reason to prioritize our fellow

believers? The second reason to help the believers first is because…)

1. There are many believers still in need (6b; pay more attention).

1) If you really pay attention to your fellow believers, there are too many people in need that you can help. Frankly, you will never finish to help them.

2) So, why you look for other people where those in need are with you. You meet them at least once a week, why don’t you try to know deeper about them, their struggling, and offer help. I believe God will open the way if you willing to help.

3) Anyway, what is the motive of helping your fellow believers? Being seen by others? Or just wanting to be a good person?

(Verse 2a-b said that we should help fellow believers who are in need. Through that part, we have learned the way to help others (how), but we have not known the reason/motive (why) behind the action. In the next section, we are going to know what should be our motive of doing good. That is why verse 2c-d is very important. It tells us to…)

**II. Help others to show love (6c-d).**

1. We need to help others leave their wrong understanding (6c; Judaism circumcision, wrong motive).
2. The phrase “in this way” helps us to find the link between “carrying each other’s burdens” and the “law of Christ”. So, in order to fulfil the law of Christ, we need to carry each other’s burdens.
3. Before we know what is the “law of Christ”, we have to understand that we are no longer live based on the law of Moses. The death and resurrection of Jesus has given us freedom to live not based on retribution but grace.
4. When we help our fellow believers, we are helping them to see the grace of God and the freedom in Jesus Christ. We are no longer being trapped by the laws anymore, like the Jewish who need to keep all the laws in order to live righteously. We have been freed by the love of Jesus and we are free and as a response, we need to help others.
5. We want to help them to get rid from their wrong understanding of salvation like what happened with the Galatians at that time.
6. We need to show the law of love (6d; new life).
7. Apply Jesus’ commandment (6d; cf. James 2:8).
8. Then, what is the “law of Christ” which is mentioned in 2b? Based on Gal 5:14b, we understand that the law of Christ is the commandment that is given by Christ to the believers which is the law of love: Love your neighbour as yourself.
9. This commandment is sounds simple but in the reality, it is harder than what we think. Some fellow believers seem not worthy to be helped. They are may so nagging, arrogant, or hypocrite but I believe that God will help us if we have a heart to help them.
10. Give all the credit to God (6d; the faithful servant).
11. The motive definitely is not about yourselves. We do all good deeds for others is to show the law of love. If, the motive behind your good deeds is for yourself, you are not doing what God asked you to do. The ultimate credit should be all for Him.
12. To show love to others is to help them to see the goodness and grace of God. When they are glorifying God because of your good deeds, you have done you work for God.
13. It is also clearly written in James 2:8b that when we love the fellow believers, we are doing right in the eyes of God. It is always be our motive, to do something right for the glory of God.

(So what’s Paul’s key point? This whole verse basically teaches us to help others especially the believers and to have a right motive behind it.)

**Conclusion**

1. To apply the law of the love, help believers in need [Main Idea].

We should help Christians to apply Jesus’ commandment by loving one another [Restatement]

1. Application: Start helping your fellow Christians with a right motive (love).